TORONTO metro®
NEWS WORTH SHARING.

LOTTO 649
A. Graham & A. Fontaine
Cambridge
Dec. 20
$2.5 MILLION WINNERS

Starry night

NHL's best face off in Ohio. Page 24.

FISH HOOK AND THE SWAN

An injured mute swan was found stuck in the ice near Bluffer's Park in Toronto on Jan. 21. The bird was caught in fishing line and impaled by two fish hooks. Bluffer's Park is a hot spot for items such as discarded fishing lines and the "garbage" that fishermen leave behind, say officials at the Toronto Wildlife Centre. **See story, page 8.** ANNE KRAMAR/TORONTO WILDLIFE CENTRE

Rate your landlord: New Toronto site

Housing. R3NTR aims to be the Airbnb for local renters and landlords

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
rosemary.westwood@metronews.ca

The "Airbnb" for renters and landlords will soon hit Toronto.

And while new startups are frequently deemed the "new Airbnb" of something, in this case, the description is apt.

R3NTR — a new online platform — wants to take the rental market off Craigslist and Kijiji, just as Airbnb did with vacation rentals.

"Renting a place right now is a very archaic model," said CEO and co-founder Ray Taaeb. "People have to go through an agent, you have to do all this paperwork just to make an offer on one place."

With R3NTR, tenants can post profiles, upload pertinent information, such as credit scores and references, and use the site for free to browse and find housing. When renters find properties they like, they can bid on them.

Landlords can also create profiles and upload property postings for free.

"Every profile needs to be verified before tenants can make offers and landlords can post listings," Taaeb said.

Quoted

"Renting a place right now is a very archaic model."

R3NTR CEO and co-founder Ray Taaeb

R3NTR will make its money — it hopes — from charging landlords for the other features. That means paying to accept bids from renters and receive rent payments.

Other paid features let tenants use the platform to request repairs or otherwise communicate with their landlords.

People looking for a place to live will also get a better sense of who they're renting from — or living with, Taaeb said. Like Airbnb, people can rate each others' profiles.

"You know the people posting them are real, you feel safe giving your information to them," he said. "(We want to) make it positive, where people feel safe going to view a place and not having to go with two friends."

"Privacy is going to be a key concern," he added.

"But R3NTR is confident it can address that need, while improving transparency with those we rent to and from."

The beta version is already online, and the company plans to launch in the GTA in the next few weeks.

R3NTR co-founder and CEO Ray Taaeb, at his rental home in Toronto. DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

*Visual represents softening ingredients per load

Downy Fabric Softener has **30% more softening power** than Fleecy*

Downy
wash in the wow

©2015 P&G

Fleecy is a registered trademark of Colgate-Palmolive Canada Inc.

NEWS 1

Church and Carlton

Three stabbed in 'rampage'; Man faces 20 charges

In a random and unprovoked attack, a man "on a bit of a rampage" stabbed three pedestrians near Church and Carlton streets Sunday morning, police said.

Det. Phil Hibbeln told reporters at the scene the man attacked four people with a knife near Maple Leaf Gardens in four separate incidents. Three victims were taken to St. Michael's Hospital in serious but non-life-threatening condition.

The fourth person, a woman, was unhurt.

"He went for the fourth person but he wasn't successful," Hibbert said.

Toronto Paramedic Services said the three injured victims include a man and a woman in their 20s and another man in his 40s, who were taken to hospital shortly after 8:30 a.m.

The three taken to hospital each had single stab wounds to their torsos.

One victim took shelter in Ryerson University's nearby Mattamy Athletic Centre before paramedics arrived, according to a Ryerson spokesperson.

According to police, the stabbings happened along Carlton between Church and Yonge around 8:30 a.m.

Police arrested a man shortly after near Yonge and Carlton without incident.

Shawn O'Neill, 62, faces charges including four counts of attempted murder, four counts of aggravated assault, six counts of weapons dangerous and six counts of assault with a weapon. All 20 charges were related to Sunday's incident, said police.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New Greek leader offers little hope, locals say

Danforth. Victory of anti-austerity party met with skepticism by Toronto residents

GILBERT NGABO
gilbert.ngabo@metronews.ca

Costus Bezioulas, right, and his two friends at a Danforth café Sunday afternoon. They are not confident about any real change in Greece, even after the country's latest elections. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

As results from the much-anticipated elections in Greece were coming in Sunday, there was a palpable air of hopelessness and uncertainty in the large Greek community in the Danforth area.

"Elections don't really matter because it is a really bad situation right now for the young people," said Costus Bezioulas, as he and his buddies were having an afternoon coffee while watching a soccer match at Café Frappe near Danforth and Pape avenues.

"Unemployment is a big problem for us. I don't think someone will change that situation any time soon. It's just bad."

Bezioulas, 33, said he decided to leave Greece two years ago to came to Canada in search of a better life.

He sees no immediate change to the economic plight that his native country has been through for the past few years.

The big issue, he says, is that the country's future is "always controlled" by big international institutions such as the IMF and the European Union.

The young generation, he says, wants to be "honourable people, not to be begging all the time."

"They are saying this is the most important election, but I have no hope any time soon," he added.

The head of the radical leftist Syriza party Alexis Tsipras has vowed to end austerity, but some fear it might be just empty promises for electoral gain.

"He promised too many things, too many changes," said Tony Tsiolakis, another resident of the Danforth Greek community. "It would be nice if he can do all that, but I think it will be hard to accomplish."

One of the first priorities for the new government, suggests Tsiolakis, should be to hold accountable former leaders who were "corrupt," and are responsible for sending "Greece into the darkness."

That's when the country can really work towards sustainable economic progress and job creation for the youth, he added.

"If justice doesn't work, democracy doesn't work," he said.

Quoted

"He promised too many things, too many changes."

Tony Tsiolakis, a Danforth-area resident, speaking about the recently-elected Alexis Tsipras, head of Greek's radical leftist party Syriza.

FOR MORE COVERAGE OF THE ELECTION IN GREECE, SEE PAGE 13.

Get Out Of DEBT
Without Bankruptcy
Without Loans
SPEAK TO THE Licensed Debt Professionals™
FREE CALL 310-9200
(NO AREA CODE NEEDED)

DAVID SKLAR & ASSOCIATES INC.
Licensed Credit Counsellors · Licensed Proposal Administrators · Trustee in Bankruptcy
www.DavidSklar.com
David Sklar, CPA, CA, CIRP, Trustee

The many faces of global subway riders on display

Exhibit. Photographs come from an array of cities worldwide, including Toronto

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
rosemary.westwood@metronews.ca

Feeling grumpy on the Subway?

Well, so are these guys. And those people.

Okay, except that lady. She's having fun.

A new exhibit at Stephen Bulger Gallery on Queen Street West proves that ever since there have been subways, there have been tired, bored, irritated riders.

Pulling on photographs from Russia to Tokyo, New York, Montreal and Toronto, the show spans the history of subway culture and finds, perhaps unsurprisingly, decades of indifference, at best.

Except, of course, that lady.

"Everyone seems to be in their own little world, at a time when you're being transported side by side," observed gallery owner and curator Stephen Bulger. "There seems to be very little joy on the faces.

"This type of transportation is a real necessity. I think people take it for granted a little bit," he added.

The photos have the reverse effect of showing how the mundane morning commute can be a canvas for art.

Bulger was inspired by the onslaught of subway talk in Toronto in the wake of the Mississauga subway/LRT debate (and then-mayor Rob Ford's rant/chant "Subways, subways, subways!").

He found images of grimy subway construction in 1930s New York, photos of the smushed faces of Tokyo subway riders, and a gleamy shot of the iconic yellow TTC tiles at Museum station, before the renovation.

Some photos show transit at its "scariest," Bulger said, especially in New York in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

"I think there was a lot of fear that the subway had been taken over by hooligans.

"The subway cars were completely littered and covered with graffiti," he said.

Clockwise from top left: Tired passengers on the New York subway in 1967, copyright Dave Heath; subway riders in the 1970s, copyright André Kertész; the graffitied subway cars of New York City circa 1980, copyright Bruce Davidson; the one very happy rider holding a 'fun fun' bag sitting with others in Montreal in 1987, copyright George S. Zimbel.

Japan's Uniqlo opening two outlets in Toronto

Customers look at clothes on display at a branch store of Japanese clothing giant Uniqlo in Tokyo on Jan. 15. YOSHIKAZU TSUNO/GETTY IMAGES

Uniqlo, a leading Japanese clothing retailer, is announcing Monday that it will open two flagship stores in Toronto in the fall of 2016: one at Yorkdale Shopping Centre and one at the Toronto Eaton Centre.

Uniqlo has a global presence, with 1,500 stores in Japan, Australia, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, the U.K. and the U.S.

"Uniqlo is growing and I thought — we all thought — that Canada was a terrific market, especially starting in Toronto. It's in reasonable proximity to our New York City flagship store on 5th (Avenue) and we thought it would be a natural expansion," said Larry Meyer, chief executive officer of Uniqlo USA and Canada.

The announcement comes as Target Canada is in the process of closing 133 stores following a disastrous attempt to enter the marketplace, a failure that will put 17,600 people out of work in the spring. Last week the Starbucks cafes inside the stores were closed.

At a glance

- Uniqlo sells comfortable, affordable and stylish casual apparel, free of logos, for men, women and children, in fabrics engineered to perform well in different climates and weather conditions.

The Eaton Centre Uniqlo, measuring 28,000 square feet, will put Uniqlo into direct competition with H&M next door. It will be situated in part of the space at the north end of the Eaton Centre vacated by Sears Canada. Nordstrom is also planning to open in part of the space in the fall of 2016.

Uniqlo at Yorkdale will open in a 24,000-square-foot space in the same new wing that will house Nordstrom and 27 other new tenants, many of them first-to-market.

More information is available on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using #UniqloCanada. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MOBI CUSTOMERS GET 6 MONTHS FREE

Join WIND Mobile today and get 6 months of FREE unlimited data, talk and text, plus a free SIM Card.

OFFER ENDS SOON

WIND
true mobile freedom

Offer is valid as of January 15th, 2015 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Learn more at WINDMobile.ca. To be eligible for this offer, you must port-in your existing Mobilicity number to WIND, activate on our $25 or $35 monthly plan, and bring your own phone or buy your phone from WIND. The number that you are attempting to port-in from Mobilicity must not have been on the WIND network in the 30 day period immediately prior to your port-in request. 6 months of the WIND 25 or the WIND 35 rate plan fees for free will begin on the date of activation. You will be responsible for any additional pay-per-use service that you may use, including: monthly add-ons, long distance calling, and roaming. All unlimited plan features are from anywhere on our network, otherwise long distance and roaming rates apply. This offer is not available in conjunction with WINDtab or the Bring Your Own Device program. All services subject to WIND's Terms of Service, Fair Usage Policy and Internet Traffic Management Policy and are for personal use by an individual. WIND, WIND MOBILE, WINDtab and true mobile freedom are trademarks of Wind Telecomunicazioni S.p.A. and are used under license in Canada by WIND Mobile Corp. © 2015 WIND Mobile

VACATIONS UP TO 50% OFF!
BEST PRICE GUARANTEED! BEST PRICE
STOP PRETENDING START VACATIONING
Book now and you could win your trip for free!
A new vacation won every day
CONGRATULATIONS!
YOU COULD BE NEXT
NORMA R., GEORGETOWN, ON
ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP FOR 6
CAYO COCO, CUBA
$5,380 VALUE
JANNA D., AYR, ON
ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP FOR 2
CANCUN, MEXICO
$2,818 VALUE
THIS COULD BE YOU!
BOOK AN ALL-INCLUSIVE
VACATION BY FEBRUARY 8TH
& YOU COULD WIN IT FOR FREE
itravel2000™/MC.com
1.866.WOW.DEAL
WESTJET vacations
CANJET
Sunquest
Visit itravel2000.com for full terms and conditions.

The trouble with property taxes

BUDGET DECODER

Day 1. What 2.75% more would really mean for Toronto

MATT ELLIOTT
toronto@metronews.ca

When Mayor John Tory announced last week at Toronto's budget launch that residential property taxes will go up 2.75 per cent this year, you'd be forgiven for assuming that the city will be getting a chunk of new money from taxpayers over the next year.

But that's not really true.

In inflation-adjusted terms, this city this year will take in less money from property taxes than it did last year — as it has done most years since amalgamation. That makes it hard for council to deliver on housing, transit, social services and all the stuff we get promised during election campaigns.

To understand, you first have to know that property taxes are weird — and probably don't work the way you might think.

For instance, this year's tax increase doesn't mean that your tax bill will be exactly 2.75 per cent higher than it was last year. That actual amount depends on a range of factors, including the city's average assessment value and your property class.

Nor would it be right to think, hey, Toronto real estate values are increasing a lot, so Tory shouldn't need to increase property taxes at all. The municipal government sees no extra revenue from assessment increases, per se.

In simplified terms, all the 2.75 per cent figure means is that the municipal government plans to raise about 2.75 per cent more revenue via property taxes this year than last year.

That revenue comes from everyone, by the way — including the 50 per cent of Torontonians who rent rather than own. There aren't many landlords out there who won't look to pass any kind of increased costs on to their tenants.

No other major kind of tax works like this.

When the federal or provincial governments want to get more cash from sales or income taxes, they don't have to raise the rates — they just have to get you to buy more stuff or make more money.

But for the most part, Toronto's municipal government won't see a dollar in new property tax revenue year-over-year unless it hikes taxes.

That's an important thing to understand, especially in the context of politicians who promise to keep property tax increases at or below the rate of inflation.

It's a risky proposition. The 2015 budget stands as proof.

Trying to balance fiscal restraint with new spending, Tory's first budget only delivers a tax increase below Toronto's rate of inflation because of $86 million coming in via a provincial loan.

That's not a sustainable strategy, and it demonstrates just how squeezed the city's finances are.

With the inherent limitations of property taxes, which account for 38 per cent of gross operating spending, the city budget is really a question of priorities: Should we keep our property taxes low or should we invest in things like transit, housing, shelters and infrastructure as the city grows?

Because it's looking more and more like Toronto can't have it both ways.

Series

This is the first of five columns examining the proposed 2015 Toronto budget and explaining what all those numbers are really about.

Deputy City Manager Roberto Rossini adjusts his tie while talking with City Manager Joe Pennachetti at city hall on Jan. 20. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Critics say Wilson's TDSB reforms would hurt, not heal

They were tough words for an unruly school board that few would deny needed a little tough love.

But since trouble-shooter Margaret Wilson called for a rollback of trustee powers at the Toronto District School Board — starting trustees and staff on a scramble to do that in the four short weeks Queen's Park has given them — some are asking if all of Wilson's criticisms were fair, and whether her reforms will fix the real problem.

Some, in fact, warn Wilson's fix for dysfunction could deal a blow to local democracy.

At least 80 members of the public have signed up to address her recommendations Monday night at a special board meeting to allow public input.

"The thrust of the recommendations are off-balance; it's excessive finger-pointing at trustees as being the problem in the whole mix," said Ryerson political science Prof. Myer Siemiatycki.

"We're talking about major public institutions using public funding that need to be accountable, and at this point the only way we've figured out how to do that is through elected officials. The irony is, you can't find a more powerless, marginalized group of elected officials in the country than school trustees — and now the province wants to clip them back even more? It's a big mistake to go down that path."

Margaret Wilson at a news conference at Queen's Park announcing recommendations and reforms to the troubled TDSB on Jan. 15. COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

While few would dispute the board table had become almost paralyzed by constant scandals, questions are being raised about whether Wilson has gone too far in her bid to rein in bad actors.

Many of the hands-on trustee behaviours she criticized are just part of being an elected official, argued former trustee Josh Matlow: "Ms. Wilson is critical of a structure that the trustees are a part of whether they like it or not."

Take Wilson's condemnation of trustees' use of the phrase "my schools" when talking about their ward, which she suggested shows they treat their wards like "fiefdoms."

That language doesn't bother political science Prof. Nelson Wiseman of the University of Toronto.

"Of course you should be talking in terms of ('my schools')" if trustees are elected in particular wards, said Wiseman. "But it doesn't preclude you from talking about system-wide issues. You should be doing both."

In her blistering report, Wilson wrote about a "culture of fear" among principals, because some of the dozen TDSB principals she interviewed complained of trustees having too much power over people's careers.

Quoted

"The thrust of the recommendations are off-balance; it's excessive finger-pointing at trustees as being the problem in the whole mix."

Ryerson political science Prof. Myer Siemiatycki

In particular, Wilson scolded some trustees for getting involved in hiring superintendents or principals. But John Del Grande, a former trustee with the Toronto Catholic District School Board, said having trustees involved in principal appointments can be a good check-and-balance because "a principal can make or break a school community."

He recalled one occasion where trustees held off approving a principal transfer because parents were opposed. Del Grande said he acted like a mediator, sat down with community members and the superintendent and worked out a solution that made everyone happy.

Still, Wilson criticized TDSB trustees for generally having a "full-time mindset" on a part-time salary — something Wiseman said just sounds like taxpayers "getting more bang for their buck."

Del Grande believes a "full-time mindset" is partly the result of the role of trustee not being defined clearly enough by the provincial government.

"Just as you have people who go over and above doing full-time work, you have some people who do less than part-time work and who don't show up."

Wilson caught many by surprise by recommending TDSB trustees start dealing with under-enrolled schools — an issue few had expected as part of her review. Teachers and Toronto labour unions have since argued Wilson overstepped her mandate and made her report "as much about closing schools and reducing the democratic role of trustees as it is about fixing the dysfunctional relationships."

But Wilson said addressing under-enrolled schools was "absolutely within what I was instructed to do.... The report makes the point that the board should have a three-year plan and look at surplus properties — not the wholesale closing of schools." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

comwave®

UNLIMITED

Internet & Home Phone

For only

$49.95/month

Home Phone & Internet Bundle

+ Unlimited Local Calling
+ Unlimited Data
+ Keep your existing number

6 Months FREE

Home Phone

1-866-840-2894

comwave.net

While Comwave strives for accuracy in our advertising, Comwave reserves the right to correct any error in pricing or information at any time. *The rates and free phone service promotion are based on a bundle 1 year contract term in addition to the two months, and includes a 30-day satisfaction period. If you are not 100% completely satisfied, you may terminate the service anytime within the Satisfaction Guarantee Period with no further obligation. There is a $50 (96-6 - 5%) fee to configure your equipment. Upon return of the equipment, a $50 (96-6 - 12%) credit will be applied towards your final invoice. All customers signing up in the promotion are entitled to a minimum 2 months free phone service. If you transfer your existing phone number from your current provider to Comwave within the first 30 days, you will receive an additional 1 month free for a total of 6 months free phone service. HOME PHONE (VOIP) VoIP 911 has certain limitations versus traditional 911. A $1.45 charge for 911 service applies. All Unlimited Plans do not include calls to the Yukon, Nunavut, N.W.T., Alaska and Hawaii. A $12 fee is applied for shipping the VoIP Adapter. INTERNET: Rates do not include a $5.95 Monthly Access Fee and a one-time installation fee of $49 (residential). Unlimited usage is governed by our Fair Usage policy to prevent abuse available at www.comwave.net/terms.

Litter threatens city's fauna: Advocates

Bluffer's Park.
Group warns visitors to be careful when discarding litter

LUKE SIMCOE
luke.simcoe@metronews.ca

Inattentive anglers are putting the swans of Bluffer's Park in peril, says the Toronto Wildlife Centre (TWC).

Staff at the centre are nursing a swan back to health after it was pulled from the ice near the park's shore last week. The bird was tangled in fishing line and impaled by not one but two discarded fish hooks.

"Bluffer's Park is a hot spot for things like discarded fishing line, hooks, sinkers and the garbage that fishermen can leave behind," said director Nathalie Karvonen. "Any kind of water bird can be affected by it.... In the case of swans, they could be nibbling the line up with the food they're trying to eat."

The threat posed to the city's fauna by litter — ranging from fishing gear to food containers — has prompted TWC to launch a campaign.

"There needs to be more awareness. We're constantly picking up big tangles of fishing line," said Tracy Horvath, founder of the local conservation group The Wild Bluffs.

By the time it arrived at TWC last Wednesday, the swan had lost a lot of blood and suffered serious abrasions to its mouth. Staff at the centre are also testing the bird for lead poisoning, in case it ate a fishing lure or sinker.

"That's the problem: these things persist in the environment for an incredibly long time," Karvonen said. "So if you see fishing garbage, clean it up. You might even be helping a wild animal 20 years down the road."

The wildlife centre receives calls about waterfowl in distress throughout the year, but the wintry weather can exacerbate the situation. Birds immobilized by fishing line are more prone to hypothermia and can even become stuck in ice as the water freezes.

Karvonen said the public can lend a hand by notifying TWC of animals in distress. In particular, she said residents should be concerned about water birds that appear tolerant of human contact.

"Friendly is absolutely not friendly," she said. "It usually means they're extremely sick or weak. That swan is like: 'I can't get away from this scary human.'"

Threats to wildlife

Fighting the perils of litter

Later this year, the Toronto Wildlife Centre will be launching a campaign aimed at local litterbugs.

Executive director Nathalie Karvonen said litter is one of the biggest threats to wildlife in Toronto. Every year, the centre treats countless birds impaled on fish hooks and skunks caught in peanut-butter jars or McDonald's McFlurry lids.

"McFlurry lids are really common," Karvonen said. "They're exactly the perfect size for a skunk head."

To report a wildlife emergency, call 416-631-0662.

Toronto Wildlife Centre workers rescued this injured swan at Bluffer's Park on Jan. 21. Staff at the centre are also testing the bird for lead poisoning, in case it ate a fishing lure or sinker. COURTESY ANNE KRAMAR/TORONTO WILDLIFE CENTRE

Skating tradition at Toronto Island popular again

Mariah Millen, right, skates circles around her friend Lilly Flawn on Toronto Harbour on Saturday. The girls grew up on the island and say they've been skating since they could walk. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Whenever skaters head out on the ice in the Toronto Harbour, people in the condo towers lining the waterfront freak out.

The Toronto Police Marine Unit gets "calls galore," says Sgt. Gerry Klunder, and they're obliged to send out officers to make sure the skaters are safe.

"The ice is always shifting around in the harbour," Klunder said. "So it's not safe from the point of view that there could be cracks that open up."

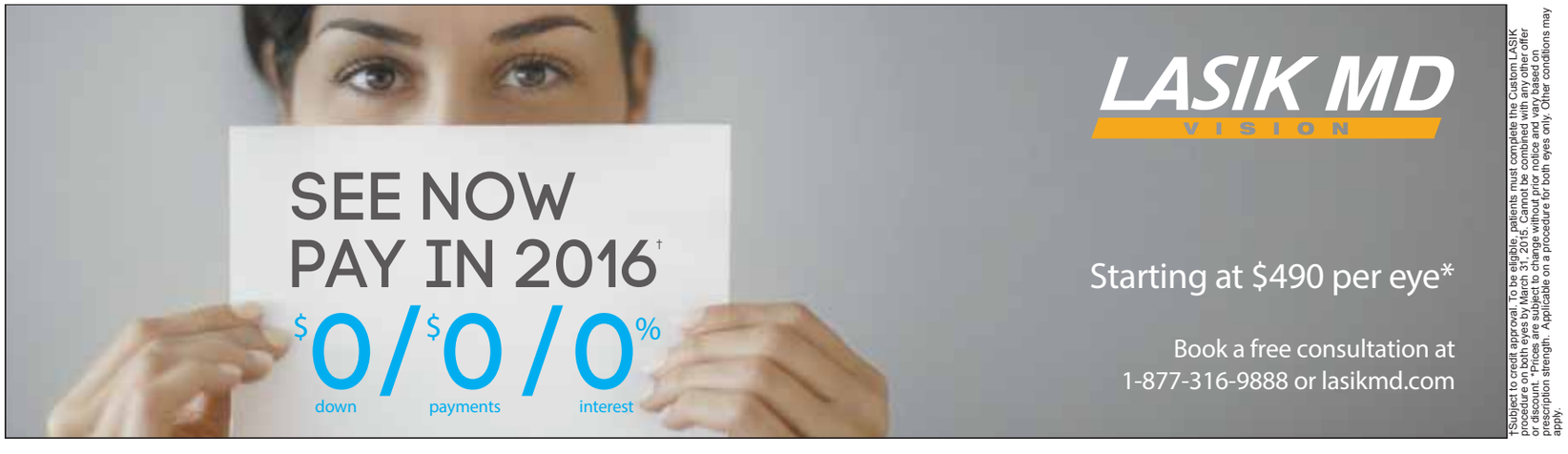
The police push off in their amphibious air boat, which has a big fan on the back and can climb up onto the ice, to inform the skaters of the risks.

The skaters fear the police boat and avoid it at all costs. They report being told to get off the ice or asked to wear life jackets. Some claim to have been threatened with tickets. The cat-and-mouse game plays out every winter, with skaters turning tail every time the boat starts up its motor. Yet each season, Klunder reports, at least one person goes through the ice and needs to be rescued.

Toronto has a long history of skating on the harbour that includes ice-boat races and New Year's Eve balls on the ice. Those traditions live on in a reduced form, preserved by a small community of people who live on the Toronto Island.

Each winter they watch the weather and check the ice. They start tentatively in the lagoons between the islands, and if it gets cold enough, they'll venture onto the harbour. Most skaters also carry special ice picks around their neck to help pull themselves out should they punch through.

Word of Toronto Island skating has spread the last few winters, and more and more people are heading from the city to enjoy the wonders of skating on natural ice. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE


SEE NOW
PAY IN 2016†
$0/$0/0%
down payments interest
LASIK MD
VISION
Starting at $490 per eye*
Book a free consultation at
1-877-316-9888 or lasikmd.com
†Subject to credit approval. To be eligible, patients must complete the Custom LASIK procedure on both eyes by March 31, 2015. Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. *Prices are subject to change without prior notice and vary based on prescription strength. Applicable on a procedure for both eyes only. Other conditions may apply.

Party's over for Toronto's 'superclubs'

Nightlife. People now prefer smaller-scale establishments to clubs like the Guvernment

Charles Khabouth is the owner of The Guvernment nightclub and a menagerie of other Toronto clubs and restaurants. The closure of the Guvernment is marking the end of one of the city's biggest nightclubs. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On a raging Friday night with "200 taxis around the corner, cars coming and going and people being dropped off," Charles Khabouth loved rolling up to Lower Jarvis Street and Queens Quay East.

The intersection is where his famed club the Guvernment sits and, on a busy evening in the late '90s, he says, you could feel the excitement in people's footsteps as they scrambled to get inside.

But those days are ending, Khabouth told Torstar News Service recently as he sat in his gold-accented office with a sprawling view of Yorkville. After 18 years, his 22,000-square-foot goliath club is closing its doors, signalling what some believe to be the death of "superclubs" in Toronto.

Gone is the heyday where nights were planned around who was playing the now-defunct John Street megaclub Circa or what records would be spun on the all-retro weekends at the three-floor Whiskey Saigon.

Instead, locals are moving toward smaller city clubs such as Coda, Product (formerly This is London) and Uniun that are lesser in profile, but not always in size. Even hot spots on the outskirts of town such as Sugar Daddy's in Mississauga or Luxy in Vaughan and supper clubs, where dancing and dining go hand-in-hand, are experiencing a surge in popularity.

Why the shift?

Matt Casselman, a former Toronto DJ and the owner of now-extinct Industry nightclub, casts part of the blame on online dating.

"Superclubs used to be a place to pick up and meet your next boyfriend or girlfriend," he recalls. "Now that you have better odds doing online dating, I think venue size of choice has shrunk."

Others point the finger at space growing scarce amid the condo boom, an influx in development and stricter zoning laws. The situation has become exacerbated since city council tried to clamp down on the venues.

In 2009, a bylaw banned new restaurants, bars and, effectively, nightclubs more than 2,421 square feet from opening on Ossington Avenue in between Queen and Dundas streets.

Then, in 2013, the Toronto and East York Community Council unanimously passed another law slashing the number of bars and restaurants to 25 per cent of businesses in four sections of Queen Street West between Roncesvalles Avenue and Dufferin Street in Parkdale.

The 60 clubs that some had calculated were sprinkled along Queen and King streets west rapidly shrank to a dozen or two and former city councillor Adam Vaughan pronounced that "it's no longer the cool thing to go to a night club the size of a Walmart."

In a city where clubs had once dominated nightlife, suddenly the Guvernment was the last big one standing.

The rising popularity of smaller venues never shook Khabouth. He says people have always liked small clubs because they are the kind of places where everyone knows your name and the small pool of staff quickly learn the orders and musical tastes of the regulars.

"A good club is a good club regardless of size. It all depends on the operator," he says. "There will always be room for the small clubs, but unfortunately, bigger space gives you bigger opportunities to get better talent." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Last call

The last show at the Guvernment was on Jan. 25. Teardown is slated to begin Jan. 26 and the place is scheduled to be completely vacated on Jan. 31.

Quoted

"A good club is a good club regardless of size. It all depends on the operator."

Charles Khabouth, owner of Guvernment nightclub

High-tech bike to roll out in spring

Cycling. Toronto-designed Vanhawks Valour comes with anti-theft technology

A high-tech bike created in Toronto is hitting the pavement this spring after years of development and a crowdfunding campaign that raised nearly $1 million.

Makers of the Vanhawks Valour, a carbon-fibre bike that tracks cycling habits on a mobile application, say the bicycle is still in production, and will ship later this year.

"We are just finalizing how things are manufactured and how things fit together," said Devin McDonald, Vanhawks' director of operations. "We are working through the final kinks."

The release will come a year after 802 funders put forward cash to become early adopters of the bike's technology, which includes a Bluetooth connection that gives turn-by-turn directions, sensors for blind-spot detection, a GPS-equipped accelerator and LED indicator lights.

The company was hoping to raise $100,000 on crowdfunding platform Kickstarter, but garnered more than eight times that goal, giving it $820,083 for prototypes and development.

"The response we got was overwhelming," said Vanhawks co-founder Niv Yahel, noting that the company has more than 1,000 orders for the bike. "We never expected to get as much as we did."

They'll be busy over the next few months finishing production and processing orders from all over the world, including the Netherlands and Singapore.

Simon Whitfield, a Canadian triathlete and Olympic gold and silver medallist, has even given the Valour a thumbs-up.

"I've been talking about it with my housemate and we have both completely geeked out over it," he said in an interview for the company's blog, noting that he was excited by the "potential to build a smart bike network."

Chief manufacturing officer Adil Aftab Iqbal, front, and chief operating officer Ali Zahid from Vanhawks have created the Valour, the first smart connected bike. Simon Whitfield has given the Valour a thumbs-up. ANNE-MARIE JACKSON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

That network would connect all Valour bikes, collecting information so riders are warned of potholes, construction and blocked roads.

The connection would also allow Vanhawks to tackle a growing problem in Toronto — bike theft.

Based on technology that senses when two Valours are within six kilometres of each other, the company will be able to track a bike's last known location.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tracking your ride

Vanhawks is not the first to use technology to help prevent theft and return stolen bikes to their rightful riders.

- Three-person Santa Clara, Calif., start-up Wi-MM is selling a motion sensor-equipped alarm that can be hidden in a bike's water bottle holder. When someone attempts to swipe a ride, a siren goes off and the owner receives a text saying, "your bike is being stolen as you read this message."
- FlyKly, a New York-based company, requires users of its bikes to register online and create a pincode that allows them to unlock their bike using a mobile phone app. The bikes are also outfitted with tracking and detection software to help the owner find it in case one is stolen anyway.

APPROPRIATE FOR NEURONS OF ALL AGES
BRAIN
The Inside Story
AN EXHIBITION
STEP INTO THE AMAZING, CHANGING BRAIN!
NOVEMBER 19, 2014 TO MARCH 29, 2015
KNOWLEDGE PARTNER
ONTARIO BRAIN INSTITUTE
INSTITUT ONTARIEN DU CERVEAU
LOCAL SUPPORTING SPONSOR
Medtronic
MEDIA PARTNER
TORONTO STAR
thestar.com
Brain: The Inside Story is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (www.amnh.org), in collaboration with Codice, Idee per la cultura, Torino, Italy in association with Comune di Milano – Assessorato Cultura, Italy; Guangdong Science Center, Guangzhou, China; and Parque de las Ciencias, Granada, Spain.
OUR PREMIER PARTNERS
CISCO
HONDA
YOUR CURIOUS BELONGS HERE
ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE
An agency of the Government of Ontario

On January 28

put a little

into somebody's

day

January 28 is Bell Let's Talk Day. For every text, mobile or long distance call made by a subscriber*, and tweet using #BellLetsTalk, Bell will donate 5¢ more to mental health initiatives across the country.

#BellLetsTalk

Clara Hughes

Bell Let's Talk

bell.ca/letstalk

*Regular long distance and text message charges apply.

First Nations youth grow by learning HTML code

Employment. B.C. created 84,000 tech jobs in 2012, worth over $23 billion, says the province's 2014 Technology Report Card

Participants jammed into a giant lecture hall in Vancouver, B.C. on Saturday to take part in HTML500, a course teaching computer coding skills. More than 2,500 young people registered for only a small number of spots to learn HTML, which will help them enter what's become B.C.'s second fastest growing sector. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Squamish Nation member Khelsilem is fluent in his native tongue and passionately spearheading a project to revitalize indigenous languages. But he wants to turbocharge his linguistic proficiency by learning an entirely new and universal language — computer coding.

The 25-year-old from North Vancouver plans to preserve and share the Squamish and Downriver Halkomelem languages by acquiring coding skills, which he'll use to construct a website that gives his community's lingual traditions worldwide reach.

"Geography is the biggest challenge we have as indigenous people when it comes to revitalizing languages," he said.

"Technology becomes a really big way for our people to come together in ways that we couldn't otherwise."

Khelsilem was among two tables of 20 laptop-laden First Nations people adding their beat to the rhythmic key tappings of 500 British Columbians who gathered over the weekend for a massive computer coding bootcamp.

The idea was to provide free lessons in basic coding languages, including HyperText Markup Language, known as HTML, that is standard code used in websites. Organizers hope the bootcamp prompts a mass movement towards "digital literacy."

The targeted inclusion of First Nations at the event was conceived to increase employability in Canada's aboriginal communities, while taking advantage of the fastest-growing population of young people in the country to help fill job skills gaps.

Coding knowledge is anticipated to be a boon for remote and rural native communities that are increasingly gaining Internet connectivity, said Denise Williams, acting executive director for the First Nations Technology Council.

"It's more accessible than a lot of institutional type careers or mainstream careers. It's creative and it's fun," Williams said. "It really speaks to who we are as First Nations people in terms of creating and developing things that can support and really inspire what the future is going to look like."

Bringing First Nations online is just one among countless ways Canada's economy can be revolutionized, said Jeremy Shaki, The HTML500's creator.

"Sure, Silicon Valley is amazing and Tel Aviv is amazing, but there is no country with an entire population that knows how to code," said Shaki, who's the co-founder of coding education company Lighthouse Labs that put on the event with other tech partners.

"We actually think that Canada has a super strong opportunity to do that. We have a very well-educated population and kids clambering to learn to code."

Inserting coding into Canada's mainstream school curriculum is also a goal that's been circulating among Vancouver tech entrepreneurs who aspire to use their expertise for positive social change.

More than 2,500 people registered for the fraction of spaces available at The HTML500, which indicates to Vancouver Economic Commission CEO Ian McKay that there's a giant appetite for programming skills.

"We've all heard that notion about jobs without people and people without jobs," he said. "The ability to have, in your own hands, the basic building blocks … to create a website through HTML coding skills is going to be helpful no matter what your business."

The 2014 B.C. Technology Report Card tallied some 84,000 technology jobs two years earlier, bringing in revenue of more than $23 billion.

Tech is the province's second-fastest-growing sector, employing more people than mining, forestry and oil and gas combined.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Social media. Terror acts reveal online hate speech

The recent terror attacks in Paris have unleashed a barrage of anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant comments on the Facebook pages of federal politicians and their parties in Canada — much of it plainly visible to the public.

Managing racist, sexist, homophobic and harassing material is just one of the new challenges facing parties who want to have an active social media presence, grounded in the concept of free speech and open dialogue.

A Jan. 7 post on Stephen Harper's Facebook account, in which the prime minister said he was "horrified by the barbaric attacks in France," received approximately 575 comments. Some six dozen — expressing support for blocking immigration from Islamic countries, closing Canada's borders or just criticizing Islam — were still on the page two weeks later.

"Time to step down on all Islamic communities worldwide," wrote one visitor to the page.

Said another, "All Muslims should go home and never be let back here please Mr. Harper make that happen they steal real people's jobs that belong to us Canadians."

A Jan. 14 Conservative Party of Canada Facebook post entitled Protecting Canadians from Barbaric Cultural Practices — aimed at promoting the government's legislation barring forced or child marriages — elicited similar sentiments.

Paula Todd, digital media professor and author of Extreme Mean: Trolls, Bullies and Predators Online, said some offensive speech should be left online so that it can be exposed and critiqued by others.

"We're discovering the effects of putting all this horrible stuff online," said Todd.

"One of the effects is that because it's 24 hours a day, because it flies around the world in seconds, and because it's permanent, these kinds of hate attacks can be more damaging than just the face to face." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business. Edmonton pair launch glitter revenge site

Canadians looking to get some revenge via glitter now have a homegrown solution.

Edmonton-based Josh Singer and his wife, Jessica, have launched SparklyRevenge.ca, and for $9.99, they'll mail the target of your choice an envelope full of glitter that's guaranteed to "get everywhere."

"You open it and it'll fall on your desk, but by next week it'll be all over your chair," Singer said. "Heck, it's all over my dog right now."

Singer got the idea from Ship Your Enemies Glitter, an Australian site that became an international sensation after launching earlier this month. Demand for so-called "glitter bombs" actually crashed the website, prompting its 22-year-old owner to call it quits.

Jessica and Josh Singer
CONTRIBUTED

"People need a way to feel vindicated, and we're offering an outlet for that," he said.

That said, while some of Singer's customers are out for revenge, most want a laugh.

"People are mailing it to friends and family. One person even sent one with a note that said, 'Hi, mom.'"

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO IN TORONTO

Facebook 'like' not always literal 'like': Experts

A "like" shouldn't always be taken literally, say tech experts, who are closely watching the case of 13 Dalhousie University students suspended for their actions on Facebook.

The case is interesting for many reasons, including the fact that it exposes how users often don't appreciate that nothing is truly private online, said Aimee Morrison, an associate chairwoman in the English department at the University of Waterloo.

"We're in this moment with social media where people haven't quite modulated their behaviour in what is actually a pretty public space," said Morrison, who studies digital issues.

The 13 fourth-year dentistry students belonged to a school-related private Facebook group, which was set up when they met each other in 2011.

One of the students, Ryan Millet, has gone public to protest his suspension, claiming that he helped expose offensive posts in the group, including misogynistic comments about some female classmates.

Lawyer Bruce MacIntosh suggested at a recent news conference that his client, a father of three, didn't interact much with his fellow students outside of class and used the group to stay in touch.

"He also described what the Facebook group started out being and continued to be: they exchanged thoughts about dental things," MacIntosh said, adding that only a small percentage of the thousands of posts to the group over the years were offensive in nature.

Young people especially often place a very high value on having their photos and comments Liked and know their friends also crave that validation, said Matthew Johnson, director of education for the non-profit organization MediaSmarts, which researches how kids and teens are growing up in today's digital age.

"'Likes' are strongly taken as a measure of popularity. There's often a lot of stress, for instance, when a photo is posted, over how many 'likes' it will receive," Johnson said.

"But young people do have to understand that when they're 'liking' something negative they are adding their own voice; they're essentially joining in." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal politics

Parliament to resume Monday

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is trying to set the tone for Monday's resumption of Parliament by vowing his government will focus on jobs and economic security.

He told Conservative party supporters in a campaign-style speech in Ottawa today that despite global economic uncertainty, Canada is moving in the right direction economically.

The Senate expenses scandal and the government's treatment of armed forces veterans will no doubt continue to be fodder for opposition outrage and government discomfort.

With an election on the horizon within nine months, opposition MPs are expected to train their sites primarily on the uncertain economy — the one issue most likely to move votes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anti-bailout party wins Greek election

Syriza. Party won on promises to renegotiate bailout deal and reverse austerity measures

A radical left-wing party vowing to end Greece's painful austerity program won a historic victory in Sunday's parliamentary elections, setting the stage for a showdown with the country's international creditors that could shake the eurozone.

Alexis Tsipras, leader of the Syriza party, immediately promised to end the "five years of humiliation and pain" that Greece has endured since an international bailout saved it from bankruptcy in 2010.

Quote

"The verdict of the Greek people ends, beyond any doubt, the vicious circle of austerity in our country."

Alexis Tsipras, leader of the communist-rooted Syriza party

With 80 per cent of polling stations counted, Syriza had 36 per cent versus 28 per cent for Prime Minister Antonis Samaras' conservatives.

The prospect of an anti-bailout government coming to power in Greece has sent jitters through the financial world, reviving fears of a Greek bankruptcy that could reverberate across the eurozone.

Tsipras won on promises to demand debt forgiveness and renegotiate the terms of Greece's 240-billion-euro ($335 billion Canadian) bailout, which has kept the debt-ridden country afloat since mid-2010.

To qualify for the cash, Greece has had to impose deep and bitterly resented cuts in public spending, wages and pensions, along with public sector layoffs and repeated tax increases.

Its progress in reforms is reviewed by inspectors from the International Monetary Fund, European Commission and European Central Bank, collectively known as the troika, before each installment of bailout funds can be released.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine rallies for victims of attack in Mariupol

A woman holds a placard during a rally Sunday at Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine, in solidarity with the victims of a rocket attack on the coastal city of Mariupol. Indiscriminate rocket fire slammed into a market, schools, homes and shops Saturday in Mariupol, killing at least 30 people, authorities said. The Ukrainian president called the blitz a terrorist attack as NATO and the U.S. demanded that Russia stops supporting the rebels. SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL

Japan stunned after video shows hostage killed

From the prime minister to ordinary people, Japanese were shocked Sunday at a video purportedly showing one of two Japanese hostages of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group had been killed. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe demanded the militants release journalist Kenji Goto, and offered condolences to friends and family of the victim. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Militant attack

Pakistan in the dark after blackout

A massive blackout struck Pakistan early Sunday, leaving as much as 80 per cent of the country without electricity at its height as officials rushed to restore power. Officials said power had been restored to roughly half the country's 180 million people by Sunday. A militant attack on a transmission tower caused the blackout, said Zafaryab Khan, a spokesman for the Ministry of Water and Power. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vatican

Balloons used as peace symbol

Balloons, not doves, were released as a gesture of peace Sunday in St. Peter's Square, a year after an attack by a seagull and a crow on the birds sparked protests by animal protection groups. For years children, flanking the pope at a window of the papal studio overlooking the square, set free a pair of doves on the last Sunday in January. The Catholic Church traditionally dedicates January to peace themes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You're our reason to celebrate.

Join us for Client Appreciation Day Friday, January 30th.

Enter for a chance to WIN* one of two 500,000 Aventura points prizes. Enough to fly almost anywhere in the world.

Visit us on Facebook or Twitter and tell us where in the world the penguin is. Enter daily from **Jan 26th to Jan 30th**.

#CIBCAppreciation

CIBC

*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Contest open January 26, 2015 to January 30, 2015 to legal residents of Canada who have reached the age of majority. Two (2) prizes available: 500,000 Aventura® points each (ARV $5,000 - $11,450, depending on reward options selected at the time of redemption). Odds depend on skill in selecting the correct destination and total number of eligible entries received. Internet and math skill-test required.
Full rules: https://www.cibc.com/client-appreciation-day-contest

Fisher-Price looks for more diversity in its child models

Advertising. Toy maker sets up second studio in Buffalo to tap into the city's multicultural feel

"Baby wrangler" Melanie Ruskin keeps 21-month-old Noelle Roberts engaged while a photographer records the moment at a Fisher-Price studio in Buffalo, N.Y., earlier this month. The toy maker recently began photographing children in Buffalo to tap into the urban centre's more multicultural feel and better reflect the faces in the 150 countries where Fisher-Price toys are sold. CAROLYN THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fisher-Price has long eschewed "professional" models for its packaging, instead using the babies and toddlers parents trundle into the toy maker's headquarters in the quaint western New York village of East Aurora about 32 kilometres from Buffalo,

The company recently began photographing children in a second studio, in Buffalo, to better reflect the faces in the 150 countries where its toys are sold.

"We need to make sure we have Hispanics, African-Americans, more Asian population," said Fisher-Price marketing executive Teresa Gonzalez Ruiz. Fisher-Price plans to use the Buffalo studio for about 25 per cent of its 4,000 annual shoots.

At a photo shoot earlier this month, 21-month-old Noelle Roberts rolled cars down a track as a photographer kneeled and lay on his stomach and snapped photos. "Baby wrangler" Melanie Ruskin played with Noelle, squealing and clapping to keep her engaged. The pictures could end up on a box for the toy track, or in an ad.

Noelle, who earned $50 US for the session, was recruited by Gonzalez Ruiz, who spotted the brown-eyed African-American toddler with her mother inside a Buffalo drugstore.

Fisher-Price also reaches out to hospital maternity wards, immigrant groups and urban churches in search of a rainbow of newborns to five-year-olds. The company's internal marketers initially saw the need for more diversity, and it has raised the issue in the company's consciousness, Gonzalez Ruiz said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine

Ed Fast talks free trade in Kyiv

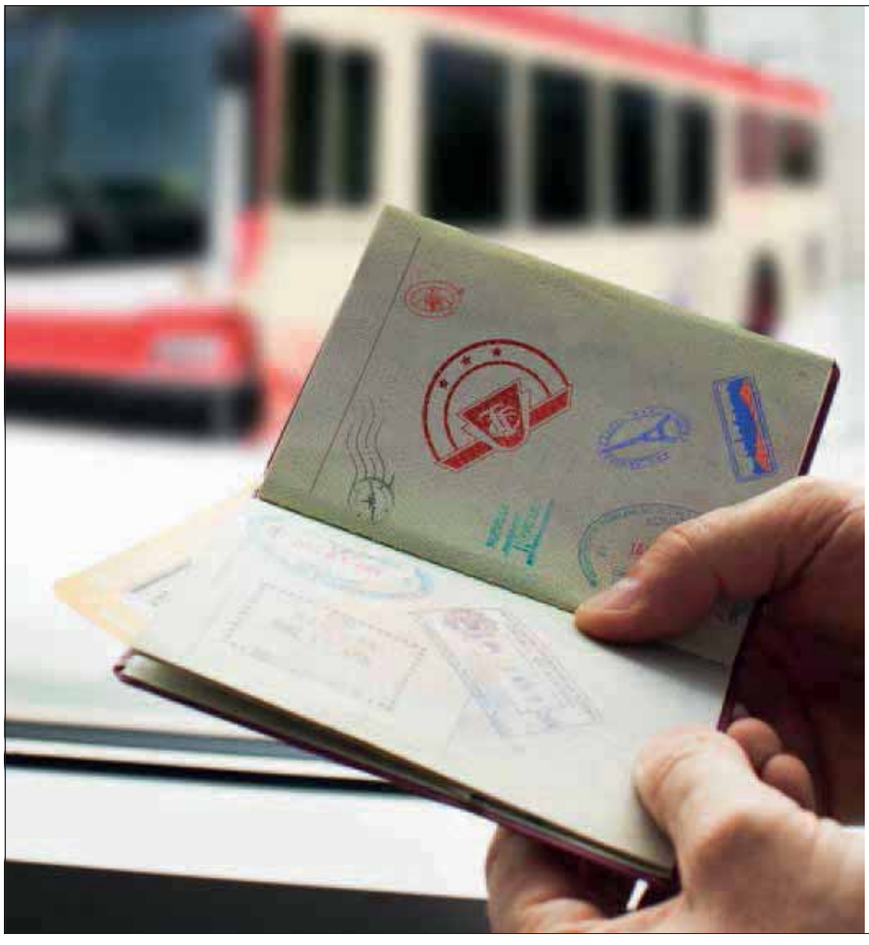
International Trade Minister Ed Fast arrived in Kyiv on Sunday for two days of talks on free trade as fighting intensifies between Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian separatists in the east of the embattled country.

Fast also plans to announce four initiatives. They will include greater support for economic and governance reform as well as a program to promote sustainable economic growth for Ukrainian small and medium-sized farm businesses.

The Harper government has handed out $314 million in economic assistance to Kyiv since the crisis began last year.

Canada and Ukraine do about $322 million in trade. The Harper government says it is looking for Canadian companies that want to invest in the agriculture and agri-food, aerospace, energy, mining and education sectors.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Your journey starts here.

Travel from downtown to Pearson Airport in 45 minutes with your TTC fare.*

Plan your trip at ttc.ca

TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION

* The 192 Airport Rocket leaves from Kipling Station. Average travel time is based on a 30-minute subway ride from Bloor-Yonge to Kipling and a 15-minute bus ride to the airport.

Earn travel rewards up to 4x faster.[1]

No annual fee for the first year. Plus, get 20,000 bonus points, **good for $200 in travel.**[2]

With the Scotiabank®* Gold American Express® Card, you'll enjoy the freedom and flexibility to redeem points before or after your trip with no blackouts, seat restrictions or booking fees.

www.scotiabank.com/4xfaster

You're richer than you think.®*

Scotiabank®*

®* Registered trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia. ® American Express is a registered trademark of American Express. This credit card program is issued and administered by The Bank of Nova Scotia under license from American Express. [1] You will earn 4 points per $1 on the first $50,000 in purchases made annually at American Express merchants classified in the American Express network as: Gas Service Stations (with or without Ancillary Services and with Merchant Code: 5541) and Automated Fuel Dispensers (Merchant Code: 5542); Grocery Stores and Supermarkets (Merchant Code: 5411); Eating Places and Restaurants (Merchant Code: 5812), Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages) including Bars, Taverns, Nightclubs, Cocktail Lounges, and Discotheques (Merchant Code: 5813), Fast Food Restaurants (Merchant Code: 5814); Entertainment including Motion Picture Theaters (Merchant Code: 7832), Theatrical Producers (except Motion Pictures) and Ticket Agencies (Merchant Code: 7922), Bands, Orchestras and Miscellaneous Entertainers – Not Elsewhere Classified (Merchant Code: 7929). Some merchants may sell these products/services or are separate merchants who are located on the premises of these merchants, but are classified by American Express in another manner, in which case this added benefit would not apply. You will earn 1 point per $1 on purchases made after you have reached the 4 points per $1 $50,000 annual spend maximum and on all other purchases made with the card. Points are not awarded for cash advances, Scotia Credit Card Cheques, Scotia Rewards Dollars, returns, payments, casinos and gambling, annual membership or card fees, interest charges or service transaction charges. [2] The introductory annual fee waiver only applies to the initial annual fee for the primary and additional cards. The Scotiabank Gold American Express Card regular interest rate is 19.99% for purchases. For cash advances, balance transfers and Scotia Credit Card Cheques the interest rate is 21.99%. The regular annual fee is $99 per year for the first card issued on the account; additional cards are charged an annual fee of $29 per year per card when issued regardless of card activation and will be billed to your first statement and once a year thereafter. Any additional cards must be issued by February 28, 2015, to qualify for the offer. The 20,000 Scotia Rewards bonus points are awarded when you use your Scotiabank Gold American Express Card for at least $1,000 in net purchases posted to your account in the first three months from the account open date and provided the account is open and in good standing. Net purchases are defined as the cost of goods and services purchased on your credit card account, less amounts credited for refunds on such purchases. The points will appear as an adjustment on your Scotiabank Gold American Express Card statement within two statement cycles after the third billing cycle has passed. Offer applies to new accounts opened by February 28, 2015. Rates and fees are as of September 1, 2013 and are subject to change without notice.

VOICES

THE BUDGET SURPRISE THAT WASN'T

Mayor John Tory has already reneged on one campaign commitment and is using a provincial loan to fulfil another one. In both cases he's using the but-I-didn't-know-until-now excuse. "*Yeah, right*," says columnist Matt Elliott

TORY'S TORONTO
Matt Elliott

A common political pet peeve of mine is politicians who make like they've been blindsided by information once they take office.

In my experience, their surprise is hardly ever justified.

The new information they claim to have received is usually not new.

There were two examples of this kind of thing over the past week, both involving Mayor John Tory.

First Tory announced that he was reversing on a campaign commitment not to raise TTC fares. Token fares will go up by 10 cents starting in March.

Tory explained how, after looking at the TTC's service levels and the impact of cuts implemented over the last four years, he realized a fare freeze wasn't really possible.

Then, at the launch of the city's 2015 budget, Tory was able to hold to his election promise to keep residential property tax increases at or below inflation only because the city built $86 million in "special provincial assistance" into the budget — a loan.

He never mentioned anything about needing to balance the budget with a loan, of course, when he was running for mayor. But the loan is necessary, Tory says, because of a steep provincial cut to the municipal housing program.

Here's the problem: Both of these things — the TTC's budget woes and the provincial cut to housing — can't be called surprises.

They were well-known pieces of information long before last year's mayoral campaign.

Hell, I knew about them last year and I don't even think I ran for mayor. I definitely didn't have an army of advisers on payroll feeding me information.

But the implication from Tory is that he didn't have all the information until after he got elected. It's a little a too convenient.

I would rather elected officials break their campaign promises, of course, than force them through at the expense of logic and evidence. Tory was basically right to waver where he did. Had he pushed for a TTC freeze, service probably would have gotten worse. Had he not grabbed for extra provincial money for the operating budget, programs would have been gutted.

It just would have been nice if the obstacles he's now facing had been acknowledged and talked about during the campaign.

But we seem to get less and less of that in modern politics. There's a disconnect between the things politicians tell us they will do and the things they actually can do. And that disconnect gets brushed aside by this idea that some information just isn't fully knowable until a politician takes office.

It's never really true. In most cases, the facts are there. The budget details are public. The obstacles are clearly marked. Too often the problem isn't a lack of information. It's an unwillingness to confront reality.

Your Toronto

Good morning, Toronto!

Photo submitted by reader Adriano Lucio

Downtown is captured under an early morning sky in this shot taken Thursday from the towers at Islington Station on Bloor Street West. CONTRIBUTED

SEE YOUR SHOT HERE: Send us high-quality snaps of your city to readers@metronews.ca

Upcoming

Stories and songs

Expect a fun-filled week at a number of libraries across the city. In celebration of Family Literacy Day on Jan. 27, various libraries are hosting story-telling events, coupled with other enjoyable activities for families. Celebrated storyteller Sandra Carpenter-Davis will attend some of the events. Activities will include stories, songs, rhythms, games, crafts and bingo fun intended for families. "Everyday is a family literacy day at a library," says the TPA. Visit torontopubliclibrary.ca for more details and specific locations. METRO

Small gauge film, big impact

Annual film festival The 8 Fest is back in town with a healthy dose of rare short films from across the country and beyond. This year's event will feature works by moving-image artist Stom Sogo of Japan, and a survey of small-gauge films (8mm, Super 8 and 9.5mm) including work from "The North" by Clayton Windatt of North Bay, Ont. There will also be a special introduction to operating a Super 8 camera, led by John Porter. The festival runs from Jan. 30 to Feb. 1 at the Polish Combatants Hall. Details at the8fest.com. METRO

Unfinished Conversation

Can art be changed by the observer? A new exhibit at the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery tries to answer that question by challenging guests to explore the role of the audience and how it can distort, detach or even drain the artist's initial intention. The exhibition starts Jan. 24. METRO

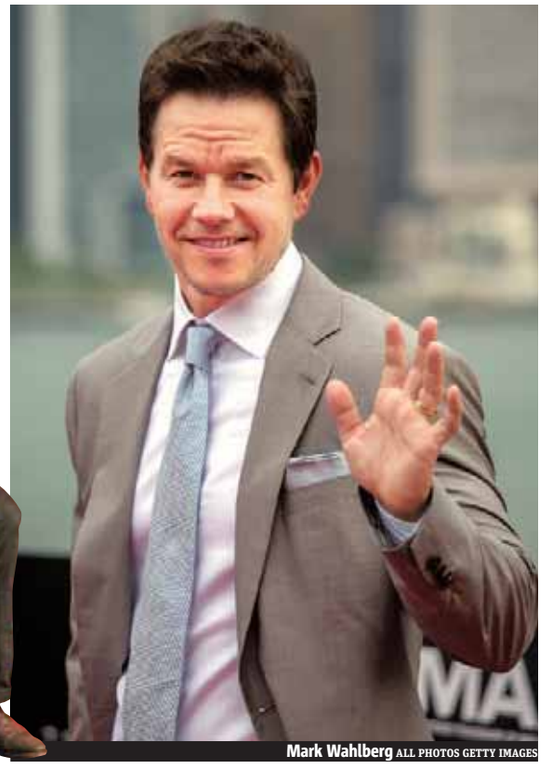
metro

Star Media Group President John Cruickshank• **Vice President & Group Publisher, Metro Eastern Canada** Greg Lutes • **Vice-President & Editor-in-Chief, Metro English Canada** Cathrin Bradbury • **National Deputy Editor** Fernando Carneiro • **National Deputy Editor, Digital** Quin Parker • **Managing Editor, Toronto** Tarin Elbert • **Managing Editor, Assignments** Angela Mullins • **Managing Editor, Features** Amber Shortt • **Managing Editor, Canada, World, Business** Matt LaForge • **Managing Editor, Life & Entertainment** Dean Lisk • **Distribution Manager** Steve Malandro • **Vice President, Content & Sales Solutions** Tracy Day • **Vice-President, Sales** Carolyn Sadler • **Vice-President, Finance** Phil Jameson • **METRO TORONTO** 625 Church St., 6th Floor Toronto ON M4Y 2G1 • **Telephone:** 416-486-4900 • **Fax:** 416-482-8097 • **Advertising:** 416-486-4900 ext. 316 • adinfotoronto@metronews.ca • **Distribution:** toronto_distribution@metronews.ca • **News tips:** toronto@metronews.ca • **Letters to the Editor:** torontoletters@metronews.ca

Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Mark Wahlberg ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Once a racist, always a racist says Wahlberg's former victim

Mark Wahlberg is seeking an official pardon for his 1988 assault of two Vietnamese men while stealing beer in Boston.

But one of his former victims — from a separate attack — thinks that's a terrible idea.

"I don't think he should get a pardon," Kristyn Atwood tells the Associated Press. Atwood was among a group of mostly black elementary school children chased and pelted with rocks by a then-14-year-old Wahlberg and his friends in 1986.

"I don't really care who he is. If you're a racist, you're always going to be a racist. And for him to want to erase it, I think it's wrong."

Rodman invites Rogen to visit North Korea

Noted friend of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un Dennis Rodman is finally chiming in on the Sony hack and The Interview, the controversial Seth Rogen comedy that caused it all.

"If the North wanted to hack anything in the world, they are going to go hack a movie? Really?" he says.

The regular visitor to North Korea also has a plan to ease tensions caused by the film. "I would ask Seth and all those involved in the movie to go to North Korea with me. And then do an interview with me about the movie." I don't see Rogen going for that.

Marsha, Marsha, Marsha! Jan gets her own meme as Brady Bunch hits Netflix

Thanks to the Brady Bunch movies making it onto Netflix, and a generation of Tumblr-happy teens who weren't alive when the films came out discovering them, we have the "Sure, Jan" meme.

And Jennifer Elise Cox, the actress who played Jan Brady in the films, is just fine with that.

"They trolled me, and then I saw it and I absolutely loved it," Cox tells Vulture.

"My husband said to me, 'You've got to be in a meme if you want to be anywhere.' And then I was like, 'Wow, I feel so lucky that I ended up in one.'"

Sure, Jan.

Jennifer Elise Cox

Mandy Moore

Ryan Adams

Mandy and Ryan still cool, even as their marriage melts

Dang it, this one seemed like it had staying power.

"Mandy Moore and Ryan Adams have mutually decided to end their marriage of almost six years," report reps for the now-exes. "It is a respectful, amicable parting of ways, and both Mandy and Ryan are asking for media to respect their privacy at this time."

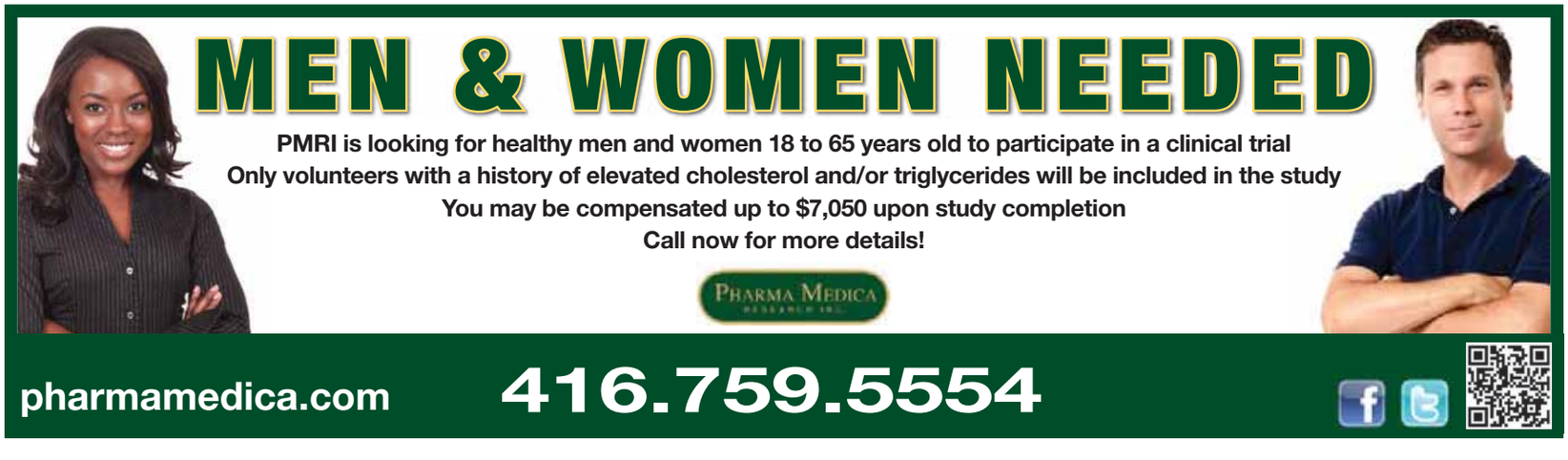
OK, two things:

First, there's no need to brag about how laid-back and easygoing your breakup is. We get it, you're so cool.

And second: Adams and Moore — or at least their reps — get major points for correctly using "media" as the plural noun that it is.

To help you cope with this news, think back to when they first started dating and how much that seemed to make absolutely no sense. Good times.

SCENE


MEN & WOMEN NEEDED
PMRI is looking for healthy men and women 18 to 65 years old to participate in a clinical trial
Only volunteers with a history of elevated cholesterol and/or triglycerides will be included in the study
You may be compensated up to $7,050 upon study completion
Call now for more details!
PHARMA MEDICA
pharmamedica.com
416.759.5554

U.S. Netflix isn't as great as it seems

Analysis. We've all heard griping that programming selection south of the border is best, but quantity doesn't necessarily mean quality

Netflix U.S. may boast more offerings, but are you really missing out if those offerings include Poultrygeist: Night of the Chicken Dead? ISTOCK

Feeling left out and ignored by Netflix Canada?

Cheer up. It may not be as bad as it seems.

Previously unpublished data provided to the Toronto Star confirms the widely held suspicion that there is far more variety for Netflix viewers in the U.S. than in Canada.

Canadian Netflix subscribers can only view half of the movie and television titles available to Americans on the online streaming service. But the data, which Netflix refuses to officially release, also suggests the Canadian list includes more hits and fewer stinkers.

The data was provided to the Star by Netflixable, a website offering a country by country periscope into 20 regions covered by the worldwide streaming service.

It shows that Canadian viewers can watch some hits that aren't available south of the border, including Blue Jasmine (2013), X-Men: First Class (2011), The Dark Knight Rises (2012), Black Swan (2010) and Batman: The Dark Knight Returns: Part 1 (2012).

"The Netflix U.S. and Netflix Canada services are treated differently by the company," said Michael Geist, a Star columnist and research chair in Internet and E-commerce Law at the University of Ottawa.

"The Netflix U.S. is focused on adding more choice with curation on subscriber interest coming later (i.e. make content available and determine whether to continue to offer based on interest)," Geist said in an email.

Some of the American titles that aren't available here include non-Oscar winners Poultrygeist: Night of the Chicken Dead (2006) and Vibrator (2003).

"A lot of people who have never done this make the assumption that the United States Netflix is the best," Josh Loewen, founder, owner and CEO of Netflixable, said in an interview.

"Their number might be the highest, but the quality of the titles (matters). There is no best," Loewen said. "Canada's got some great stuff that's exclusive to us."

Geist said there's another theory for the leaner Canadian playlist. "The cynical view is that Netflix doesn't need to create a larger library for Canada since many Canadians know how to access the U.S. service," Geist said. "That means Netflix pays for U.S. rights, but knows that others may find ways to access the content (and will subscribe on that basis)."

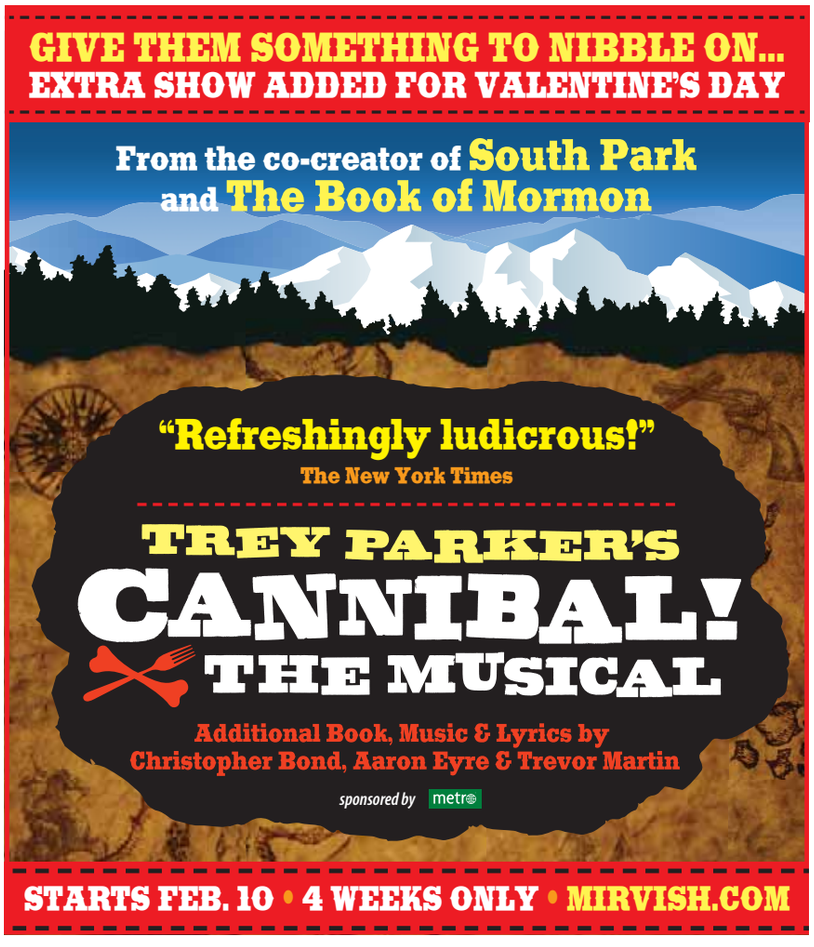
For its part, Netflix spokesperson Kiel Hume said the company does not release such data. "It's not a static service," Hume said in an interview.

"It's always changing. It's dynamic. There's always titles coming on, titles going off. That's just one of the reasons that they don't share lists of content that's available."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Data rundown

A computer program built by Netflixable CEO Josh Loewen automatically checks on a daily basis public websites to record the titles available in each of the 20 regions. The data shows that American viewers had a choice of 7,202 titles, the most in the world, followed by Canada in second place at 3,663.


GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO NIBBLE ON...
EXTRA SHOW ADDED FOR VALENTINE'S DAY
From the co-creator of South Park and The Book of Mormon
"Refreshingly ludicrous!"
The New York Times
TREY PARKER'S
CANNIBAL!
THE MUSICAL
Additional Book, Music & Lyrics by
Christopher Bond, Aaron Eyre & Trevor Martin
sponsored by metro
STARTS FEB. 10 • 4 WEEKS ONLY • MIRVISH.COM

Look who's laughing now

Actress Uzo Aduba, winner of outstanding performance by a female actor in a comedy series and outstanding performance by an ensemble in a comedy series for Orange is the New Black, shows off her trophies at the Screen Actors Guild Awards on Sunday in Los Angeles. Metro's Ned Ehrbar was also roaming the red carpet; visit metronews.ca for his coverage of the awards.

ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

DVD review

Fury

Director. David Ayer

Stars. Brad Pitt, Shia LaBeouf, Logan Lerman

Battlefield reality and macho myth collide in David Ayer's Second World War tank drama, which resembles history but unloads like a comic book.

Seeming as if he's picking up where he left off from Quentin Tarantino's Inglourious Basterds, Brad Pitt once again plays a drawling Nazi slayer who has no qualms about spilling Aryan blood.

He's in considerably tighter quarters as tank commander Sgt. Don "Wardaddy" Collier, who is every bit as scarred as the Sherman machine he rolls across German terrain. He's accompanied by the usual stereotypes: lead gunner Boyd "Bible" Swan (Shia LaBeouf), who praises the Lord but also pulls the trigger; Latino driver Trini "Gordo" Garcia (Michael Peña), who can turn Fury on a dime; mechanic Grady "Coon-Ass" Travis (The Walking Dead's Jon Bernthal), who might be in a psycho ward if not for the Second World War; and new guy Norman Ellison (Logan Lerman), a typist and pacifist.

It's April, 1945, and the war is rapidly winding down, but the losing Germans aren't willing to go down quietly. In fact, they're going down angrily and violently, especially on their homeland soil.

Attention to details give Fury heft and value, as does solid acting, but Ayer seems to lose his resolve in two scenes that are straight out of a Sgt. Fury Marvel Comics episode, or maybe a Hollywood script rewrite.

Extras include 50 minutes of deleted scenes and making-of featurettes.

PETER HOWELL

Winter X Games adds video games to lineup of events

Trend. Organization known for extreme sporting takes a chance on the virtual world

Big Air? Try Fast Thumbs.

Safe to say, the newest competition at the Winter X Games will not be at the Olympics anytime soon.

Its participants — some might prefer you call them athletes — may not know a ski from a snowboard and don't even have to have a heavy coat to win their gold medals.

These are the Gamers. Yes, being good on the Xbox can now earn a Winter X gold medal — and even more if things go really well.

Going for gold in a dimly lit tent on the edge of the X Games grounds this week are a few dozen players going at it in Counter-Strike: Global Offensive, an eGaming event ESPN executives added to the Winter X program as part of their constant quest to draw more young people into the annual action-sports festival. "We all grew up watching the X Games," said Matt Haag, known better to his millions of followers by his screen name, NaDeSHoT.

Haag won the gold medal in the debut of eGaming at the Summer X Games last year, where they played Call of Duty.

"For us to be in a situation where we're going to be at the same event and competing for the same prizes those guys do, it was ridiculous," he said. "A dream come true, to be honest."

Haag, a video gamer since he was little, says five years ago a friend filled his head with the great possibilities that eGaming could present.

Instead of simply playing in contests for a few hundred bucks, Haag was one of the first to build a legit audience by streaming his games over the internet, drawing thousands of fans and the ensuing advertisers who want young eyeballs on their products.

He currently has about 1.5 million subscribers on YouTube.

Major League Gaming, whose red-white-and-blue logo looks an awful lot like that of Major League Baseball, except with a controller in the middle instead of a baseball player, is among the companies that have mushroomed over the last few years.

Players at the Winter X Games will be going for gold in the game Counter-Strike: Global Offensive. CONTRIBUTED

Tickets to watch — not play — major eGaming events at the Staples Center and elsewhere sell out in minutes. The MLG website, for one, draws between 12 million and 15 million viewers in the average month. At the Winter X Games, where the gold medal was to be awarded Sunday, MLG co-founder Mike Sepso expected a minimum of 2 million people to watch the action online.

A few of the players, someday, might take their dream to college. Robert Morris University made a splash last year when it announced it would offer sports scholarships to students playing the video game League of Legends.

Which leads to the obvious question: Are they really athletes? Answer: There's certainly a unique skill set needed to be good at these games, mainly involving supernaturally quick reflexes and great hand-eye coordination.

"Physically, there are things they can do that we can't do," said Sepso.

The snowboarders and skiers who literally risk their lives going for the same gold medals that these new guys can win playing video games don't have any problem with it.

"It benefits everybody," said Nick Goepper, who won his third gold in ski slopestyle Saturday. "I can't see gaming taking away from ski slopestyle. It just gets more sponsors interested and all that, and that's good for everyone."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seven figure earnings

Video gamer Matt Haag, who five years ago was working at McDonald's and going to community college, now boasts earnings that reach into seven figures. But it is hard work. Haag spends as much or more time cultivating his fan base on YouTube as he does playing the games. And the prize money can come and go, but paying the bills depends on keeping people interested.

QS WORLD MBA TOUR™

Boost your career with an MBA

Toronto MBA event

Saturday, January 31st

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
Registration opens: 12:30PM
Panels and presentations: 1:00PM
Fair opens: 3:30PM
You can attend at any time between 12:30 and 6:00PM

› Meet top local and international business schools
› Apply for $1.7M of exclusive MBA scholarships
› Get GMAT advice, MBA application tips and more

Register now:
TopMBA.com/MetroTO

Quoted

"I wish everyone would get naked and simulate sex all the time, but they won't."

Orange is the New Black creator Jenji Kohan on the difficulty of filming sex scenes

"You push a button and it goes all over the world and on Sunday people are saying, 'Oh, I binge-watched all 10 of them. Where's more?' and you go, oh, the world has changed. It's not my dad walking to the television set and turning a knob to Ed Sullivan."

Jeffrey Tambor on how streaming is changing the world of entertainment

"I think the thing about expressing yourself is you have to be ready for all kinds of reactions and I feel so lucky about the support I've gotten both from the people close to me and my readers and I love the experience."

Lena Dunham, on the controversy surrounding her book Not That Kind Of Girl

"Infinite Jest really moved me. I think it's a tough book to get through and it requires a lot of commitment. It's very long, but it was one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had."

Jason Segel, who plays author David Foster Wallace in the film The End of the Tour, which is screening at Sundance

Comedy. Doc dedicated to Robin Williams explores misery's link to laughs

Does the best comedy come from pain? And does that mean comedians are the most miserable people of all?

That's what comic Kevin Pollack wanted to discover in his documentary, Misery Loves Comedy, which premiered Friday at the Sundance Film Festival. He dedicated the film "in loving memory and gratitude" to his friend and mentor, Robin Williams, whose suicide last year came just as Pollack was finishing the project.

Pollack interviewed more than 60 comics, actors and funny folks to find out if comedy requires misery, and found the answer to be both yes and no.

"I just think you're funnier when you're miserable," said Jimmy Fallon.

"I think you have to at least know misery," Matthew Perry said.

Comic Amy Schumer said that, of her friends, those who are the funniest are also the most miserable.

Said Lewis Black: "In order to become a comic, you have to love watching yourself die."

Even two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks said he spent "54 and 1/2 years of living in self-loathing."

Theatrical release

Tribeca Film announced Friday it acquired Misery Loves Comedy for distribution and plans to release it theatrically in the spring.

The pain of life isn't limited to comics and performers, Pollack said.

"Everyone has suffered through misery," he said. "It is the human condition. And the performer or the writer or the filmmaker or the actor must figure out a way to articulate it in a way that makes it either relatable or universal." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kevin Pollack THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greta Gerwig shines in delightfully quirky comedy Mistress America

Signature performance. Frances Ha star brings offbeat charm to latest Baumbach co-creation

Noah Baumbach and Greta Gerwig, the crack-pot team behind Frances Ha, have proven their delightful screwball talents once more with Mistress America, which premiered Saturday at the Sundance Film Festival.

The film is a dreamy and idiosyncratic comedy about two enigmatic soon-to-be stepsisters who are just trying to figure out how they fit in the world,

One, Tracy (Lola Kirke, who audiences might remember from a bit part in Gone Girl) is an introspective Barnard freshman and aspiring writer who can't seem to find any friends. The other, Brooke (Gerwig), is a 30-year-old romantic and striver who lives in her own alluring, albeit delusional, reality.

Everything changes for Tracy when she enters Brooke's intoxicating world. She even begins to use Brooke as an inspiration for a short story about a tragic aging dreamer, Mistress America.

But plot is almost beside the point. The inspired situational and physical comedy, sharp, witty dialogue and synthy music propel the story forward as the characters get into stranger and stranger situations.

"I was thinking of these movies from when I was a teenager in the '80s, almost like a sub-genre of movies of people who get taken out of their comfortable lives and put into sort of strange environments," said Baumbach

"Like Something Wild and After Hours, like 'I'm being pulled into this crazy thing... and there's a motorcycle!'" brings added Gerwig.

Gerwig brings her signature quirky but effortless charm to Brooke, and Kirke more than holds her own in her first big role, with the help of an excellent supporting cast (Michael Chernus, Matthew Shear, Jasmine Cephas Jones, to name a few).

Baumbach fans will not be disappointed, but the movie, like Brooke, exists in its own universe, and might not be for everyone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greta Gerwig and director Noah Baumbach at the Sundance premiere of Mistress America. INVISION FOR FOX SEARCHLIGHT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Participate in Autism Research!

Study looking at the effects of OXYTOCIN in youth with Autism

To be eligible participants will be:
- Diagnosed with **Autism Spectrum Disorder, Autism, PDD-NOS**, or **Asperger's syndrome**
- 10 – 17 years of age

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
the study coordinator at: **416-425-6220 ext. 3456**
Or visit: **www.hollandbloorview.ca/oxytocinstudy**

Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital
Bloorview RESEARCH INSTITUTE | Autism Research Centre

Jack Black heartbreaking in troubling The D Train

Jack Black said he was drawn to The D Train because he recognized the desperation of the character he plays: An outcast willing to do anything to get the most popular kid from his graduating class to attend their 20th high school reunion.

Jack Black THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The male buddy comedy, which premiered Friday at the Sundance Film Festival, turns a different lens on the trope of the drunken one-night stand and shows how far Black's character will go to get the attention of the popular guy (James Marsden), who left their Pennsylvania hometown to become an actor in Los Angeles. Dan Landsman (Black) thinks wooing this Hollywood star back to their high school would make him the hero of the reunion.

Directors straddle line between bravery and bullying

Written and directed by Jarrad Paul and Andrew Mogel, the film also stars Kathryn Hahn, a restrained Jeffrey Tambor, and features a breakthrough performance by Russell Posner as Landsman's teenage son.

- **Paul and Mogel, who've previously written studio fare, deftly handle their starry cast and venture into new territory for the genre, but they come off as bullies as much as they do brave.**

As Landsman, Black dupes his boss, lies to his wife and ignores his son to gain favour with the handsome actor.

Black's performance is heartfelt and heartbreaking. Marsden is on point as a self-absorbed actor. But this flawed comedy comes with a strong undercurrent of sexism and homophobia.

To offer more details would tread into spoiler territory, but safe to say that had one of the lead characters been female, there would probably be little to laugh at, and perhaps no movie at all. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Why it's time to stash some cash

Planning. Build up an emergency fund so that when the worst does happen, you'll have some options

GAIL VAZ-OXLADE
Gail blogs daily at gailvazoxlade.com

If you are ever laid off from work, wouldn't it be nice to know you had enough money set aside to keep a roof over your head and food in your belly until employment insurance kicks in? ISTOCK

Have you ever thought about what you'd do if you lost your job or got sick and the paycheques just stopped coming in? How would you pay your rent or your mortgage? Where would you get the money for food?

How about all those other expenses that gobble up your paycheque now? Sure, if you're terminated from work, there might be some Employment Insurance, but EI takes time to kick in, and it isn't very much. So what would you do to make ends meet?

The term the financial industry likes to use to describe that pile of money you stash away just in case is "emergency fund." But I like to call it my FU Account. That's because having money in the bank gives me the option of saying FU if I'm asked to compromise my standards. It also means that if a tree falls on my house I can say, "FU tree!" Man, I love my FU Account.

People who don't see the point in having an emergency fund are either shortsighted, or completely unwilling to stop spending all their money. They are so averse to taking a little bit of what they are blowing on crap and setting it aside that they're willing to brave the terrors of an emergency — and it's only a matter of time — without any kind of safety net.

Whenever I talk about an emergency fund, inevitably I get a barrage of excuses about saving the money. My favourites come from the people who just don't want to stop doing what they're doing.

From the small expenses such as a cellphone, buying bottled beverages or dropping the odd $20 on new makeup, to the people who spend gobs decorating and re-decorating their homes, eating lunch and dinner out, or taking vacations, people are unwilling to stop spending every red cent they make.

Do you have a gadget habit? Can't resist a new pair of shoes? Do you pick up a new magazine every time you're at the checkout? Believe it or not, you don't have to get a manicure. If you think a manicure is a need, you're delusional. And if you already own 10 pairs of shoes, the next pair is sheer indulgence. So is that bottle of nail polish, the new DVD, or the beer after work. They're all distractions from savings.

You don't have to start by saving a whack of money. This week, open up a high interest savings account and then arrange an automatic transfer to that account every month. Start with $30 — a dollar a day. That's not so much to not spend, now is it?

To build your FU account, look for ways to find more money. You know those coupons you use to save at the grocery store? Ship that money over to your FU Account. And that outfit you bought on sale last week? Send the difference to your FU Account. If you have money for cookies and pedis, you have money to build an emergency fund so that if the worst does happen, you've got some options.

How good would it feel to not have to panic when the car breaks down and you need to come up with an unpredictable $2,400? How much better would you feel if your baby, your mom or your partner gets sick and you knew you could take time off work, without pay, to see to their needs?

How much smarter would you feel if you got laid off from work and had enough money set aside to keep a roof over your head and food in your belly until EI kicks in — it's a pathetic amount, really — or you could get another job?

That'll likely take about six months (that's what the studies show, kids) so that's why you'll need to have enough to cover six months' worth of essential expenses. Make your savings automatic. If you decide to save $100 a month, have that amount auto-debited from your main banking account to your high interest savings account every month. You'll get used to living without that money in no time flat. And when the paycheques unexpectedly stop coming in, you'll be damn glad you have some money stashed away.

WANT TO BE SMARTER ABOUT YOUR MONEY? GO TO MYMONEYMYCHOICES.COM AND FOLLOW THE ROADMAP TO SUCCESS.

Make it cash, not credit

- An emergency fund is cash you've accumulated so that you can have the money you need to keep things in balance when the crap hits the fan. Don't buy the BS that a line of credit is an emergency fund. That's just some lender trying to get rich off you.
- Some people have a problem with the concept of the money in their emergency fund just sitting there earning a pittance in interest, waiting to be called into active duty when the worst happens. Once they've built up a couple of thousand dollars, the vacation becomes a "sanity emergency," or they run up their credit cards and that becomes a "debt emergency."
- But anything you can predict having to spend money on is not an emergency — it should be a line item on your budget and become a planned spending category.

2.80% 5 Year GIC
2.25% 18 Month GIC
2.05% 1 Year GIC
1.75% Oaken Savings Account

Some of the highest rates in Canada to help your savings take root

A secure way to plant for your future.

To find out more, call **1-844-218-0115** or visit **oaken.com**

Oaken™ FINANCIAL

Plant for your future™

Rates are correct as at January 26, 2015, and subject to change. The 1 Year, 18 Month and 5 Year GICs are non-redeemable, interest is paid annually or compounded annually and paid at maturity, minimum deposit $1,000. The Oaken Savings Account rate is annualized, interest is calculated daily and paid monthly. CDIC coverage up to applicable limits.

145 King Street West, Suite 2500, Toronto ON M5H 1J8 OakenFinancial @oakenfinancial

Oaken Financial is a trademark of Home Trust, member of CDIC

Workplace blues can lead to booze: Study

Career. Research shows longer work hours can increase the risk of alcohol abuse

It's true: working too hard can drive you to drink, say researchers who warn of the health risks of such dual excess. An overview of studies covering more than 400,000 people showed that individuals who exceed 48 working hours per week are likelier to consume "risky" quantities of alcohol.

The paper, published in The BMJ journal, reported that long working hours boosted the likelihood of higher alcohol intake by 11 per cent overall.

People who worked 49-54 hours a week ran a 13-per cent higher risk of developing a "risky alcohol use" habit compared to counterparts who worked a 35-40-hour work week.

Those working 55 hours or more were 12 per cent more at risk.

"Risky" alcohol use was defined as more than 14 units per week for a woman and more than 21 for a man — levels that have been linked to a higher risk for liver and heart disease, cancer, stroke and mental disorders.

An alcohol unit is the equivalent of a third of a pint of medium-strength beer, half a 175-millilitre (six fluid ounces) glass of red wine with 12 per cent alcohol by volume, or a 25 ml-shot of whisky,

The findings add statistical backing to anecdotal evidence for a link between excessive work and alcohol abuse, the authors said.

More than a dozen developed economies were covered by the research, including Canada, Britain, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan and the United States.

"This meta-analysis supports the long-standing suspicion that among workers subjected to long working hours, alcohol can seem like a fast acting and effective way to dull work-related aches and pains and smooth the transition between work life and home life," Cassandra Okechukwu of the Harvard School of Public Health wrote in an editorial. Long working hours have previously been linked to cardiovascular disease, depression and anxiety.

The increased risk of developing a "risky" drinking habit from over-work was small in absolute terms, Okechukwu said.

Also, having a job was associated with a lower prevalence of alcohol consumption and a higher chance of recovery from alcohol misuse than being unemployed.

Even so, the risk should be taken seriously.

"Any exposure associated with avoidable increases in disease or health damaging behaviour, or both, warrants careful examination," said Okechukwu.

"Indeed, these findings could add impetus to further regulation of working hours as a public health intervention."

AFP

My knowledge and talents
make a difference in people's homes.

Because working here is about more than helping customers choose the right product. It's about making a difference in our customers' lives and their homes. We call it "unleashing your inner orange" and it's my ability to tap into my inner potential.

The Home Depot, the world's largest home improvement retailer, is currently hiring quick learners to work in our stores across Canada. Many positions are available, including:

Receiving Associates • Freight Associates • Pack Down Team • Overnights Associates

Join us on the following dates at the locations listed, and learn to unleash your inner orange.

Thursday, February 12, 4pm - 9pm

MORNINGSIDE
60 Grand Marshall Drive
Toronto ON

AJAX
256-260 Kingston Road East
Ajax ON

PICKERING
1105-A Kingston Road
Pickering ON

WHITBY
1700 Victoria Street East
Whitby ON

OSHAWA
1481 Harmony Rd. N.
Oshawa ON

Thursday, February 12, 6pm – 9pm

BRAMPTON SOUTH
49 First Gulf Boulevard
Brampton ON

BRAMPTON WEST
9515 Mississauga Road
Brampton ON

REXDALE
1983 Kipling Avenue
Etobicoke ON

BRAMPTON NORTH
60 Great Lakes Drive
Brampton ON

WOODBRIDGE
140 Northview Boulevard
Woodbridge ON

BRAMPTON EAST
9105 Airport Road
Brampton ON

DUFFERIN
2375 Steeles Ave. West
Toronto ON

Apply online at homedepotjobs.ca/8766

THE HOME DEPOT®

2014 Canada's Best Diversity Employers

We are committed to diversity as an equal opportunity employer.

If you feel your health is being compromised by your work schedule, it may be time to address it with your manager. ISTOCK

Quoted

"This meta-analysis supports the long-standing suspicion that among workers subjected to long working hours, alcohol can seem like a fast acting and effective way to dull work-related aches and pains and smooth the transition between work life and home life."

Cassandra Okechukwu
The Harvard School of Public Health

Serve Middle Eastern kabobs your way

Lunch. These Beef Kaftas with Tahini Sauce can be presented with bread options or on their own

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

A Kafta is a Middle Eastern dish resembling the American burger, but with a different shape and flavour.

Traditionally it is made with lamb or beef, but you can also use ground chicken to lessen the calories and fat.

Mint and cilantro along with a dash of cinnamon give this ethnic dish its originality.

You can put the Kafta on skewers or just roll the meat into oval shapes and grill or bake it. You can also barbecue the meat rather than baking it.

This combination of flavours goes well with a homemade tahini sauce and diced vegetables. I love to serve Kaftas with naan bread or a soft bun.

Ingredients

Kaftas

- 1 1/2 lb lean ground beef, lamb or chicken
- 1/2 cup minced onion
- 1 1/2 tsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup unseasoned bread crumbs
- 3 tbsp chopped mint
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- Salt and pepper

Tahnini Sauce

- 2 tbsp reduced fat mayo
- 2 tbsp reduced fat sour cream
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- 2 tsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp tahini paste

Garnish

- 1/2 cup diced tomatoes
- 1/2 cup diced cucumber
- Naan bread, soft roll

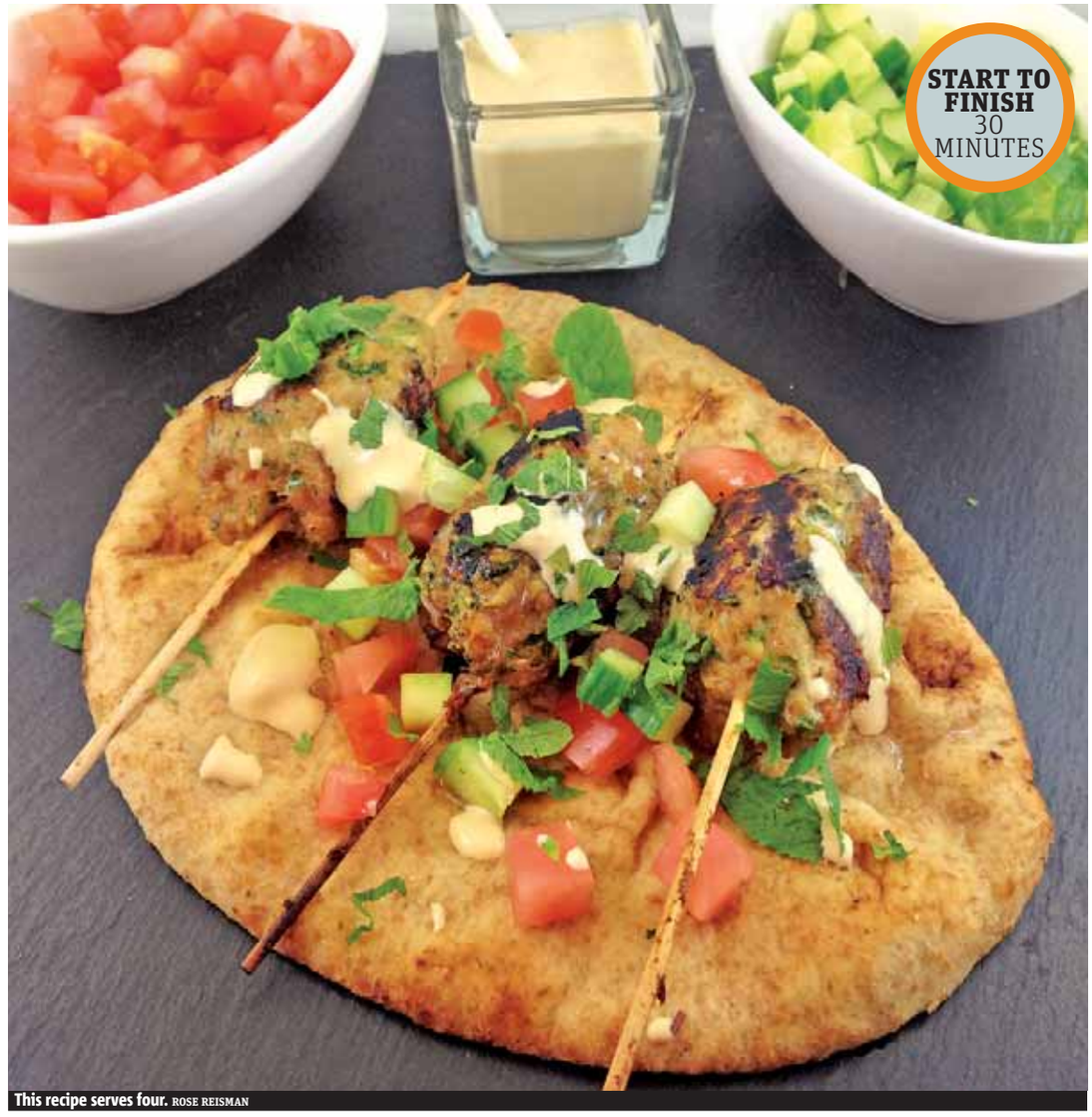
Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Combine all of the ingredients for Kaftas until well mixed. Form into 8 oval shapes and put a 6-inch wooded skewer through the middle (lengthwise) or omit the skewers if desired. On a hot grill pan, sear the outsides of the kaftas then place on a baking sheet and bake for 10 minutes or just until temperature reaches 160 F.

Nutritional information

Per serving

- **Calories.** 377
- **Carbohydrates.** 11 g
- **Fibre.** 1 g
- **Protein.** 39 g
- **Total fat.** 18 g
- **Saturated fat.** 6 g
- **Cholesterol.** 189 mg
- **Sodium.** 384 mg



This recipe serves four. ROSE REISMAN

2. Meanwhile, make the tahini sauce by mixing the reduced fat mayo and sour cream, sesame oil, soy sauce and tahini until it is well combined.

3. Serve Beef Kaftas with the tahini sauce and diced vegetables. If you're using the naan bread or soft rolls, serve the Kaftas over the top and drizzle with tahini.

INSTITUT TREBAS INSTITUTE
Audio Engineering & Production/DJ Arts Program
CAREER TRAINING SINCE 1979

trebas.com | (416) 966-3066 | At Dundas West Subway

DO YOU EXPERIENCE ANXIETY?

It may be time to consider your options.
The START Clinic is currently enrolling adult volunteers in a research study examining generalized anxiety and treatment options.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS MUST BE:
Experiencing worry and anxiety
At least 18 years of age

All study-related medical care and study medication will be received at no cost.

S.T.A.R.T. CLINIC To see if you may qualify, please call **416-573-6911.**

Phil Kessel of the Maple Leafs, from left, Patrick Kane of the Blackhawks, Claude Giroux of the Flyers and Kevin Shattenkirk the Blues celebrate a Team Foligno goal on Sunday night at the NHL all-star game in Columbus, Ohio. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Columbus hosts goal display like no other

NHL. Team Toews and Team Foligno combine for record number of tallies in all-star game

All-star game

17	12
Team Toews	Team Foligno

By the time players finished scoring a record 29 goals at the NHL all-star game, they agreed that there was one loud, ear-piercing negative: The cannon at Nationwide Arena.

"I hate the cannon," Philadelphia Flyers captain Claude Giroux said.

Florida Panthers goaltender Roberto Luongo added that the cannon wasn't his favourite part of the weekend either.

The cannon went off more times in one game in the building than ever before, marking goals by the team led by Nick Foligno of the host Columbus Blue Jackets. Team Toews beat Team Foligno 17-12 in the mid-season exhibition featuring many of hockey's top stars playing shinny with no hitting, no defence and no mercy for goaltenders.

"That's all we're really doing out there is having fun and kind of trying to show our skill at the same time," Chicago Blackhawks winger Patrick Kane said.

And a lot of goals, breaking the record set in 2001 in Denver when North America beat the World 14-12. This one was a wide-open affair in which all but three players registered at least a point.

Jakub Voracek of the Philadelphia Flyers had six points on a hat trick and three assists, tying Mario Lemieux's 1988 record.

"I think it's a little different, Voracek and Lemieux, right?" said Voracek, the former Blue Jackets winger who also leads the NHL in scoring at the all-star break. "Three secondary assists. I'll take it, but I wouldn't make a big deal out of it."

Despite tying Lemieux, Voracek was not the most valuable player. Hometown star Ryan Johansen received that honour as part of an online fan vote.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Raptors top short-handed Pistons

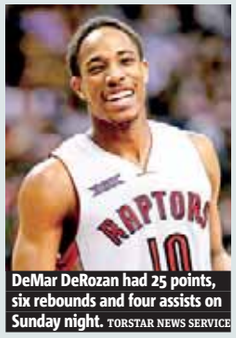
Jonas Valanciunas had 20 points and 11 rebounds as the Toronto Raptors held off a late charge by the Detroit Pistons for a 114-110 victory on Sunday.

It was Valanciunas's team-best 14th double-double of the season

DeMar DeRozan had 25 points and six rebounds with four assists for Toronto (29-15), which has now won back-to back games. All-star point guard Kyle Lowry had 11 points and eight assists for the Raptors.

Lowry addressed the sold-out crowd from half-court before the game, thanking them for their support in voting him a starter in the NBA all-star game. He received a standing ovation as he promised to represent Toronto and Canada to the best of his abilities.

Before the game, Detroit confirmed that Brandon Jennings would be out for the rest of the season with a torn Achilles tendon. He was injured in the Pistons' 101-86 loss to the Milwaukee Bucks on Saturday night. Jennings averaged 15.7 points and 6.7 assists per game before getting hurt. THE CANADIAN PRESS



DeMar DeRozan had 25 points, six rebounds and four assists on Sunday night. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Seahawk Sherman dubs Pats the villains

Richard Sherman, left, Marshawn Lynch and the Seahawks arrived in Phoenix on Sunday for this week's Super Bowl festivities. MORRY GASH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Relishing no longer being in the "villain" role, Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman is painting his team's Super Bowl opponent as the bad guys.

He also doubts the Patriots will be punished by the NFL if they are found guilty of doctoring footballs in the AFC championship game.

"It is what it is. Their resumé speaks for itself," Sherman said Sunday after the defending champions arrived in Phoenix. "The past is what the past is. Their present is what their present is. And, will they be punished? Probably not."

Quoted

"To be painted villains I guess you need to do something heinous, and I didn't. You learn a lot about people around you and about society."

Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman who was catapulted into that "villain" role last year after his rant against 49ers receiver Michael Crabtree following the NFC title game.

The All-Pro cited NFL commissioner Roger Goodell's relationship with New England owner Robert Kraft as his main reason for being skeptical.

"Not as long as Robert Kraft and Roger Goodell are still taking pictures at their respective homes. He was just at Kraft's house last week for the AFC championship," Sherman added. "You talk about conflict of interest."

Patriots coach Bill Belichick said Saturday the team "followed every rule to the letter" in preparing footballs on game day. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PGA

Haas hangs on to win his second Humana Challenge

Bill Haas pulled ahead with a 20-foot birdie putt on the par-4 16th and parred the final two holes for a one-stroke victory Sunday in the Humana Challenge.

He won the 2010 event for his first PGA Tour victory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill Haas won his sixth tour title on Sunday. JEFF GROSS/GETTY IMAGES

Australian Open

Cibulkova slugs 44 winners in win over Azarenka

Dominika Cibulkova reproduced the kind of tennis that helped her reach the final last year as she beat two-time champion Victoria Azarenka 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 in the fourth round of the Australian Open on Monday.

Cibulkova pounded 44 winners, including a dozen on her backhand side, and broke former No. 1-ranked Azarenka's serve seven times to reach a Grand Slam quarter-final for the sixth time.

She lost last year's final to the now-retired Li Na.

The No. 10-ranked Cibulkova will play the winner of the fourth-round match between top-ranked Serena Williams and Garbine Muguruza. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FA Cup

Arsenal restores order as other top teams eliminated

Chelsea and Man City were among five teams in the Premier League's top nine to be ousted from the FA Cup on Saturday. The underdogs couldn't continue the shocks a day later, though.

Arsenal beat second-tier Brighton 3-2 Sunday after being set on its way by early goals from Theo Walcott and Mesut Ozil. Tomas Rosicky was the other scorer for Arsenal, which is looking to retain the trophy and — as the fifth-place team in the top flight — is the highest-ranked side guaranteed a spot in the last 16.

Senegal striker Diafra Sakho came off the bench and scored an 81st-minute header to earn West Ham a 1-0 victory at Bristol City. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TFC looking to gain stability en route to building a winner

MLS. Pre-season training begins Monday

As always, the one thing that never changes at Toronto FC is change. But the revolving door seems to be swinging a little slower going into the 2015 season.

Rather than radical surgery, head coach Greg Vanney and GM Tim Bezbatchenko have targeted key areas for improvement. And while there is more work to be done on defence, a franchise known for past failures looks like it will be worth watching this season.

This year is about executing their vision.

"One, we're trying to do less because I think it's about continuity and stability," said Bezbatchenko.

"But then two, we know how to approach it in a little bit of a different way. Not to say we didn't do it the right way last year (when the team went 11-15-8) but I think to build a team, it's more than just the talent on the field. It's character, how you go about doing it, setting expectations for the fans.

"And I think we have players now that the fans can get around."

After weekend medicals, pre-season training starts Monday under the bubble at the MLS team's well-appointed training centre.

Toronto has said goodbye to former face of the franchise Jermain Defoe while adding big guns in striker Jozy Altidore and attacking midfielder Sebastian Giovinco. The Italian star was originally scheduled to join in July after his season with Juventus, but there has been speculation he may be freed up sooner.

U.S. midfielder Michael Bradley, in his second season in Toronto, is firmly at the TFC helm. Consulted by team brass on off-season moves, Bradley helped engineer some of them.

It would be a surprise if Bradley does not take over as captain from 34-year-old centre back Steven Caldwell. The fiery Scot is a fine skipper but the franchise seems clearly to be lining up behind the 27-year-old intense American star.

Who wears the captain's armband is a question that should be answered sooner than later, to avoid distractions. The future of Brazilian striker Gilberto, who appears to be the odd man out in Toronto's overcrowded designated player pool when Giovinco arrives, will also dominate discussion.

Camp will open without Altidore and Bradley, who are with the U.S. national team. They are not expected back until Feb. 9. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Goals

1.29

In 2014, Toronto ranked 12th out of 19 teams in goals per game (1.29) and 15th in goals against (1.59).

Toronto FC GM Bezbatchenko, left, and coach Greg Vanney, right, introduce Jozy Altidore to the media on Jan. 16 after acquiring the striker from Sunderland. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nguyen on cusp of stardom in men's figure skating

Nam Nguyen will participate in the world championships after winning gold at the Canadian championships. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Missing some of its biggest stars, the Canadian figure skating team will still head to the world championships with the podium in its sights.

Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford in pairs and Kaitlyn Weaver and Andrew Poje in ice dance headline the world championship team named Sunday at the end of the Canadian championships.

Both teams are enjoying breakthrough seasons, sweeping gold in every competition in which they've competed.

Looking for a breakthrough season of his own, Nam Nguyen, a 16-year-old from Toronto, won the national men's title in dominant fashion, giving a glimpse of a bright future in men's skating.

"Nam, he just lit it up," said Mike Slipchuk, Skate Canada's high performance director..

Nguyen is improving at breakneck pace, finishing 23rd in a junior Grand Prix last season months before winning the world junior championships. He captured a bronze and a fourth-place finish in his two senior Grand Prix events this season, and then had the performance of his career in Kingston, Ont., opening Saturday night's free program with a huge quad Salchow on his way to a clean program.

"The thing with Nam is he is just so calm, cool and collected, and consistent," Slipchuk said. "He has a good sense of humour, he's fun to be around, but when he's on the ice, it's all business. With the way the field is now, and everyone is so technically efficient, you've got to be efficient. And he just gives you that feeling that first jump is landed, he's going clean." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Off the ice

Missing in action are three-time world champion Patrick Chan and Olympic and world ice dance champions Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir.

- All three are taking this season off to contemplate their futures.

Service Directory

To advertise contact Ian March at 416-443-4388

FINANCIAL

OVERWHELMED BY DEBT?

CALL THE Licensed Debt Professionals™

GET OUT OF DEBT!

- Avoid Bankruptcy
- 1 Low Monthly Payment
- No Interest Charges
- Stop Collection Calls
- Government Licensed Proposal Administrators

David Sklar, CPA, CA, CIRP, Trustee

FREE Consultation 310-9200

(NO AREA CODE NEEDED)

DAVID SKLAR & ASSOCIATES INC.
Licensed Proposal Administrators & Trustee in Bankruptcy

HEAD OFFICE: 245 FAIRVIEW MALL DRIVE, SUITE 720, TORONTO, ON, M2J 4T1
NORTH YORK • TORONTO • PICKERING / AJAX • MISSISSAUGA / ETOBICOKE • BRAMPTON

www.DavidSklar.com

CALL ERIKA
(LICENSED DEBT EXPERT)

STOP COLLECTION CALLS
GET DEBT RELIEF NOW!

Reduce or Eliminate Tax Debt too.
Stop Garnishments and Court Actions
Debt Proposals, Debt Counselling, Avoid Bankruptcy
Call NOW to talk with a Government-Licensed Expert
Low income? No problem! Ask about our affordable, very low fee to get Debt-Free.
We're here to help. Friendly, Caring Professionals.
Free consultation. Same day appointments.

1-877-332-8416
416-288-8048
Scarborough (Main office), Weston, Brampton, Oshawa, Mississauga (Pt Credit)

Rusinek & Associates Inc — Trustee in Bankruptcy — www.rusinek.ca

---

WANT YOUR DEBT GONE?

WELKERANDCOMPANY.COM

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

- ✔ Erase your debt
- ✔ Stop collection calls
- ✔ Avoid bankruptcy
- ✔ Reduce your stress
- ✔ Stop garnishments
- ✔ Get a fresh start

FREE CONSULTATIONS

647-793-6411

MAIN OFFICE: 1969 WESTON ROAD, TORONTO
TORONTO | BRAMPTON | MISSISSAUGA | NORTH YORK

WELKER AND COMPANY

Federally Licensed: Proposal Administrator & Trustee in Bankruptcy

---

LOWEST RATES for bad credit loans since1984

What would you do with $20,000?

PFS

- ✓ College Tuition?
- ✓ Home Renovation?
- ✓ Wedding?
- ✓ Travel?

You decide.

Paid off car 6 years or newer?

Borrow up to $20,000 the same day!

416-634-2013 *Call for details and conditions

BorrowWithYourCar.com
A division of Prudent Financial Services

MONEY PROBLEMS?

Make One Small Monthly Payment For All Your Debts!

WE CAN

- ✔ Stop Collection Calls
- ✔ Reduce your Debts
- ✔ Stop Wage Garnishment
- ✔ Stop Interest Right Away
- ✔ Re-Establish your Credit
- ✔ Deal with your Tax Issues

Visit: GtaCredit.Com

North York (416) 650-1100	Scarborough (416) 754-0011
Mississauga (905) 275-4200	Ajax / Oshawa (905) 426-8400
Brampton (905) 796-3100	Toronto Downtown (416) 489-2000

gta credit

Call for a FREE & CONFIDENTIAL meeting with one of our Govt. Registered Counsellor

---

MORTGAGES

BANK SAYS NO ...WE SAY YES!!!

- VARIABLE RATES FROM 2.35%
- 1ST, 2ND, 3RD MORTGAGES
- BAD CREDIT/PRIVATE LOANS • CONSOLIDATE DEBT

CENTUM Mortgage Professionals Corp. — Looking out for your best interest

Current Lowest Mortgage Rates in Canada:
3 year fixed: 2.49% | 5 Year fixed: 2.84%
Variable Rate 2.20% (Prime-0.80%)

Residential Sub-Prime Rates:
Starting from 3.69%, Max Loan to value can be 90%, Call us to discuss the details of your deal

Email: Nella.Centum@gmail.com
Mortgage Agent: Gaetana (Nella) Lanzellotti
Call or Text: 416-992-5104
License Number: M14000424
Centum Mortgage Professionals License Number: 10266

MORTGAGE APPROVED!

- 1st and 2nd Mortgage for any purpose.
- Refinance to 87%. Purchase to 95%.
- With rates at historic lows, now is the time to re-finance your home!
- Consolidate cards into 1 payment
- Self-employed? Stated income.
- Good and bad credit are welcome!
- Behind in Mortgage Payments?

WE CAN HELP!
HOMELAND MORTGAGE
416-519-3505 OR 647-273-5626
WWW.HOMELANDMORTGAGE.ORG

License # 11991

TOO MANY BILLS.... ...GET A FRESH START!

Bankruptcy • Proposals
Debt Counselling

416-740-5400
Toronto • Rexdale • Etobicoke • North York
Don Mills • Bloor West • Scarborough

905-273-6300 Mississauga • Brampton
1-888-329-5198 www.billfixer.com

FREE Consultation - Evening Appointments- Flexible Payments

KEVIN THATCHER & ASSOCIATES LTD.
TRUSTEE IN BANKRUPTCY

DEBT RELIEF

Are you drowning in debts?
I can help you...

- Consolidate debts, no interest
- Settle your debts without a bankruptcy
- Stop collection calls and garnishments
- Get rid of tax debts and court actions

NONA KUMAR
Estate Administrator
Credit Counsellor

Free Consultation: 416.455.7709
Evenings and weekends appointment also available

Rumanek & Co. Ltd. Administrators of Proposals, Trustee in Bankruptcy & Debt Consolidation Arrangements: Head Office in North York, ON. Offices in Scarborough & Mississauga.

RESUME SERVICES

97% SUCCESS RATE

We provide:

- ✓ Resume and Cover Letter Writing
- ✓ One-on-one Interview Coaching
- ✓ Job Searching
- ✓ Career Counselling

Invest in Your Future!

(416) 752-0707
Website: www.resumesforsuccess.ca
Email: info.resumesforsuccess@gmail.com

PSYCHIC

India Specialist Psychic & Fortune Teller

Shiva Durga Astrologer
Pandit: JAI DEVA GURUJI
Generation to Generation
Handles Impossible problems

Helps in Health, Depression, Job, Business, Love, Marriage, Husband-wife Relationship Divorce, Enemy, Jealousy, Children prob.etc
Removes Black Magic, Evil spirits, Witchcraft, Jinn, Voodoo, Jadoo & Gives 100% Protection

647-669-1729 1672 Jane St Toronto M9N 2S2 Opp. No Frills, Downstairs Prince Travel Service, JANE & LAWRENCE

Astrologer & Psychic - Pandit DEVADAS

Love, Marriage, Kids, Education
Job, Money, Health, Sexual Etc
GIVE ME ONE CHANCE & SEE YOU YOUR LIFE PROGRESSING

Call for 1 FREE QUESTION I can handle any problem

He is Very Special in Removing Black Magic, Bad Luck, Jadoo, Voodoo through Performing Poojas & Gives 100% Protection

647-622-9097, 647-709-3459
5210 Finch Ave E, #1, Scarborough M1S 4Z6
(MIDDLEFIELD & FINCH, INSIDE GOLDEN BAKERY)

Famous Indian Astrologer & Psychic

MASTER GURU RAGHVENDRA
SPECIALIZED IN BRING BACK LOVED ONES
Overpowers Impossible Problems
Passed down from Generation to Generation
Removes Problems like Money, Court Love, Business, Education, Depression Enemy, Education, Health, Marriage, Job

An Expert Spiritualist treats Black magic, Evil Spirits Jaadoo, Evil Eye Power, Obeya & Gives 100% Protection

If you have Met other Astrologers & not satisfied, MEET ME ONCE and see the Results

647-713-9399 1062 Albion Rd Etobicoke M9V 1A7 ALBION & ISLINGTON, INSIDE POOJA HUT

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

metro AR

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
A problem can quite easily be resolved, by ignoring it. This is a situation where something is an issue only because you choose to think of it as an issue.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Be careful what you say today because if you leave any doubt about your meaning someone could take your words the wrong way and cause a scene.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Force yourself to look on the bright side today. According to the planets you have nothing to worry about but you may have to trick yourself into believing it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
This is potentially an excellent time for you but you find that hard to believe. Why? Mercury is playing tricks on your mind. A few days from now something remarkable, and most welcome, is going to happen.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't dwell on negative news as the week begins, especially if it involves someone you care for. The planets say you're taking the situation too seriously.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This may be a confusing day as the signals you get from co-workers are jumbled. Your best course of action is to ignore their words and focus on body language. It will speak.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your logic circuits don't seem to be functioning, most likely because mind planet Mercury is in one of its retrograde phases. If in doubt, listen to what your inner voice is trying to tell you.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The planets warn this is not a good time to take chances as cosmic activity in one of the more sensitive areas of your chart is clouding your ability to separate fact from fiction.

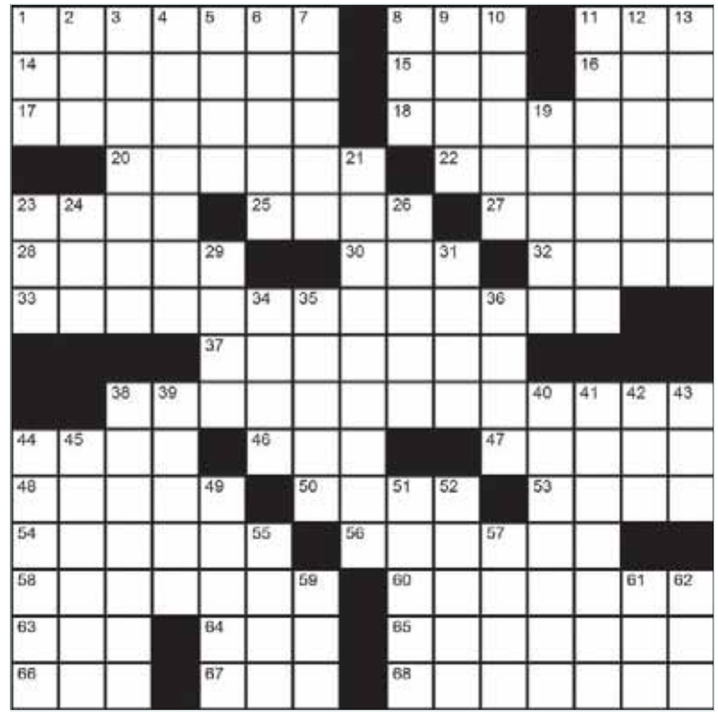
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may find it hard to tell the good guys from the bad guys today, so be on your guard and take nothing for granted. You could also read too much into perfectly normal situations, so don't jump to conclusions.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If something about your cash flow situation is bothering you chances are it is mainly, if not entirely, in your mind. So don't think, just act instinctively.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Don't get carried away by your own enthusiasms. You will get your chance to shine but pushing too hard could be counter-productive.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will have to deal with someone's negative emotions today, without getting negative or emotional yourself. Smile.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



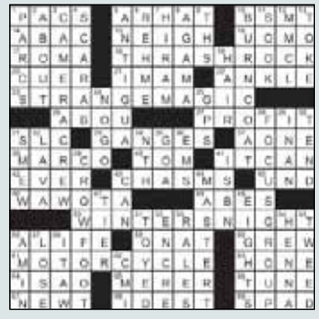
Across

1. CBC's new comedy starring Eugene Levy and Catherine O'Hara, "__ Creek"
8. Director Mr. Lee
11. British mother, colloquially
14. There's no one like 'her' in The Turtles tune
15. Caviar
16. Lab eggs
17. Carnivorous dish: 2 wds.
18. Palais des __ (Montreal convention centre)
20. Circle of latitude north of the Equator, __ of Cancer
22. Primps
23. Okinawa seaport
25. The Hollies song, when tripled
27. Result
28. Tony-winning actress Judith, and surnamesakes
30. '_' __ in Queensville
32. Conform to commands
33. Engineering marvel connecting Cape Breton to mainland Nova Scotia: 2 wds.
37. "Beauty and the Beast" (1991) candelabra character
38. "The ___ ___": Rush song that goes "Begin the day with a friendly voice..."
44. Really cry
46. L's spelling
47. Era
48. Also known as...
50. Price listing word
53. Romantic's creation
54. Fractured finger fixer
56. Howie __, Canadian hockey analyst
58. 1960s series, "Dr. __"
60. She gave Theseus thread to escape the Minotaur's labyrinth
63. 'Serpent' suffix
64. __-de-sac
65. Time in a recording studio
66. Mr. Beatty
67. Essential
68. Reverences

Down

1. School yr. part
2. NBA Cavs, on a scoreboard
3. Infidel
4. New-assignments-holders on desks
5. Classic TV mouse, __ Gigio
6. Vacations
7. Don't give up, __ __ through
8. Curve
9. Cute-sounding denial
10. Sort or style
11. BC: One of the two big Haida Gwaii islands
12. Street sort
13. Toronto-born actor Raymond who starred on #58-Across
19. Birthplace of Columbus
21. City in BC
23. Ms. Kidman, to pals
24. Ms. Gardner
26. Promenade
29. Prefix meaning 'Sun'
31. Feudal worker
34. Medical breakthrough
35. "...inch and he'll take _ __."
36. "The Way We __" (1973)
38. Guzzled
39. Tartan
40. Placate
41. Options-in-a-desperate-situation
42. Wintertime surface
43. Electrical resistance unit
44. __-Robbins ice cream chain
45. __ skiing
49. Coffee break treat
51. Quit
52. "__ hoping!" (Dreamer's exclamation)
55. Genuine
57. 'Sun' suffix (Big name in oranges)
59. English cathedral town
61. __ de plume
62. Nav. rank

Friday's Crossword

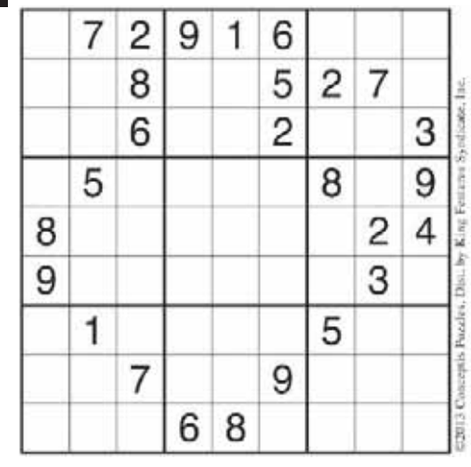


Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



©2015 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Friday's Sudoku

6	5	1	7	4	2	8	3	9
3	2	8	6	9	1	4	5	7
4	9	7	5	8	3	6	1	2
7	3	5	2	1	4	9	6	8
9	6	4	3	7	8	5	2	1
1	8	2	9	6	5	3	7	4
5	1	9	4	2	6	7	8	3
2	7	3	8	5	9	1	4	6
8	4	6	1	3	7	2	9	5

FALI African Spiritual Reader
35 years of experience. Knowledge passed down from generation to generation. Problem solving by means of deep consultation in the mirror with effective competence, seriousness and secrecy. Specialized in reuniting relationships, business growth, jobs, court cases, removing evil spirits, protection.
Satisfaction guaranteed!
Pay after Results
Don/Mills/Sheppard
www.falipsychic.com • fali75@gmail.com
CALL 416.614.8057

#1 Astrologer & Psychic
PANDIT: SAHDEVO
Solves Problems related to Love
Children, Business, Job, Money
Health, Family, Depression, Etc
100%Removing Black Magic*Evil Spirits*Obeya*Voodo*Bad Luck
NOBODY CAN BREAK MY WORK
Call for Most Accurate & Honest
Guidence to Solve your Problems
416-303-3439
67A Dundas St. W, Mississauga, Royal Jewellers Upstairs, DUNDAS & HWY 10

SPIRITUAL HEALER & PSYCHIC
Pandit: NARSIMHA
If you have Problems, I have Solutions
He is Expert in removing Black Magic,Jadoo, Voodoo, Evil spirits, Generation curses & gives 100% Life-Long Protection
Solves problems Business, Marriage, Health, Love, Money, Depression, Enemy etc
BY PERFORMING POWERFUL PRAYERS
647-739-9401
27 Dundas St. E, Mississauga (Hwy10 & Dundas)

Pandit: DURGA
The Most Powerful Spiritual Healer
Solves all Problems
Love * Marriage * Kids
Education * Business* Job
Money * Health * Sexual
Family Prob * Enemy*Court
100%Removing Black Magic*Evil Spirits*Obeya*Voodo*Jodo*Bad Luck*Jealousy*Witchcraft* And Gives Strong Protection...
647-838-3353
(Kennedy & Lawrence) Opp. Dollarama

@metrotoronto
metro

Reinvent your eyestyle

Designer eyewear starting at $49

INCLUDES PRESCRIPTION LENSES*

Get a fresh perspective on your eyestyle for the new year by accessorizing with frames that feature a fun new colour, unique textured print, or striking modern shape.

Katherine Penfold is a Canadian singer/songwriter and is wearing Derek Cardigan 7027 Dark Timber

*1.59 INDEX SINGLE VISION CLEAR LENSES

TAKE **$10 OFF** YOUR NEXT ORDER :: USE CODE: **METROGL** :: OFFER EXPIRES JANUARY 31, 2015

ClearlyContacts.ca™

THE BETTER WAY TO BUY EYEWEAR

CALL: *1-866-414-2326* **IN STORE:** *317 Queen St. W*